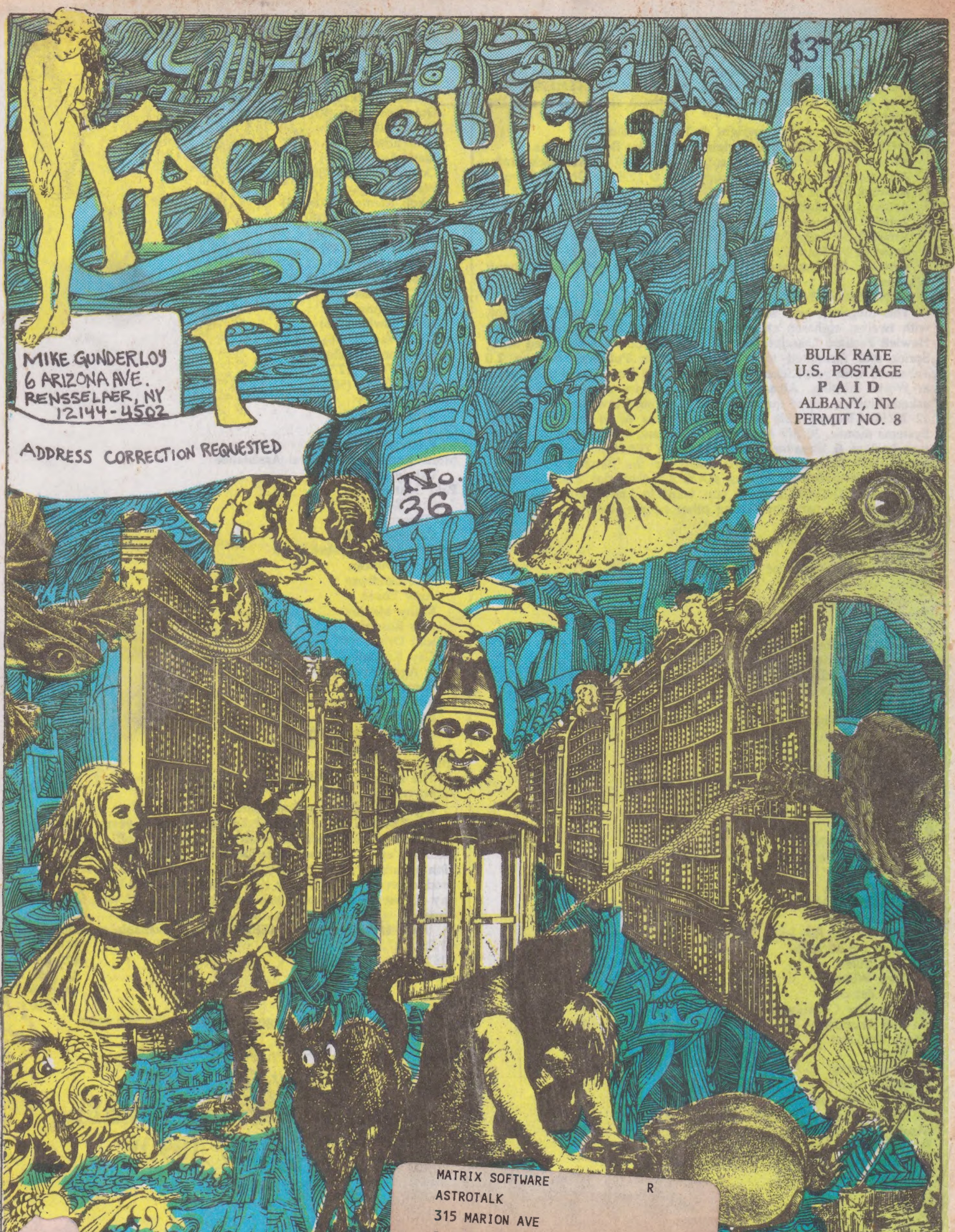

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FACTSHEET FIVE

No. 36

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FACTSHEET FIVE #36

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This magazine was set in Palatino seven, eight and nine point, with twelve, eighteen and twenty-four point Palatino heads, on a Hewlett Packard LaserJet Series II printer, from files produced using Sprint and formatted with Xerox Ventura Publisher version 2.0 enhanced with Soft Kicker, and printed on a Goss Community press at World Printing, Albany, New York. Since some of you have asked, here's a list of the other computer stuff involved: a Zeos 286 12 MHz AT-compatible with 2 megabytes of memory, a Mouse Systems mouse, 30 MB hard drive, 360K and 1.2M floppies, a 40MB tape backup & lifesaver, and a Princeton Ultrasync monitor driven by an NSI SmartEGA+ board make up the hardware side. For software I wouldn't be without 4DOS 2.2, Swapdos 1.00, Grabplus, and Super PC-KWIK 1.54. If you want to know more than this, phone me, so I can stop boring other people, OK?

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  Sheryl Birkhead (95)
  Cathy Buburuz (14)
  Chris Curtis (71)
  Daniel Davis (93)
  William Dockery & David Cushman (48)
  Douglass-Truth (93)
  Joe E. (24)
  John Eberly (27)
  Mark Fearing (83)
  Dominick Fucci (86)
  Wayne Hogan (31)
  Jakob Klemencic (54,63)
  Tuli Kupferberg (38)
  James Lindley (95)
  Larry Oberc (115)
  Judy Pokras (78)
  Jason Sadofsky (11)
  A.C. Samish (69)
  Marge Simon (6)
  Matt Towler (106)
  Dave Vamos (86)
  Shannon Wheeler (67)
  Mel. White (127)
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Back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE** are available as follows:

#1,2,3,4,17.1	$1 each
#18,20-33	$2 each
#5-17, 34-35	$3 each
#19	$5 each
Complete set	$80

Please see the facing page for new subscription rates.

Next Deadline:
July 20, 1990
(music & video deadline July 10, 1990)

Factsheet Five

Subscription Rates 1

About your mailing label 2

Besides telling you when your subscription runs out, this section explains the various ways you can get **FACTSHEET FIVE**, and contains sundry other useful bits of information.

Changes of Address 3

Lost Addresses 3

Do *you* know where any of these people have gone?

Dead Zines 3

Alas, another list of people who have recently ceased publishing.

Errata 4

Yes, we make mistakes. Here's a list of the ones from last issue.

T-Shirt Reviews 4

Artifact Reviews 5

Artifacts are things that have a presence beyond being carriers of print—buttons, stickers, armbands, Moebius strips and other goodies.

Software Reviews 6

Important Events 8

Mail Art Contacts 9

Miscellaneous News 10

FACTSHEET FIVE Projects 12

News of books you can buy from us, sales of our mailing list (and how to avoid getting your name sold), the FF index and t-shirts, and ways you can get pounds of zines for only the cost of postage.

Getting Zines 13

If you're new to the world of zines, please take a few moments to read this advice on ordering copies.

Noted but not seen 14

Zines which sent us advertising instead of copies.

Those Funny Numbers 14

How to read the pagecount code at the end of each review.

Advertising Rates 14

Æditorial 15

In which the Æditor spouts off about the joys of bulk mailing, mistakes which subscribers make, and sundry other topics.

Publisher's Choice 16

In which a few exciting zines from the past two months are highlighted. Featured in this issue: AGOG, CAVEAT EMPTOR, CRY FOR DAWN, FREE INQUIRY, GAMUT, and GOING GAGA.

Zine Reviews 17

This is where to look for periodicals, unless they are oriented primarily to music, comics or poetry—for which see the next three sections.

Music Zine Reviews 55

Comics Reviews 64

Poetry Reviews 70

Both poetry zines and chapbooks will be found in this section.

One-Shot Reviews 76

Reviews of pamphlets, booklets, leaflets and other non-periodical items which are not perfect bound or hardcover.

Video Reviews 80

NTSC Cyberbeat 82

Belka Stamas muses on *Twin Peaks* and what it means for the video industry.

Stars on One 84

Anni Ackner returns to discuss *Twin Peaks*.

Libertarian Activist/Scientist Plundered by DEA 86

Experioddica 87

Bob Grumman discusses offerings from the Runaway Spoon Press.

Conspiracy Corner 89

Kerry Thornley discusses conspiracies yesterday and today.

The Fishing Hole 90

Joe Lane discusses the problems of the small press.

Curmudgeon Corner 92

Garry De Young discusses justice, college and knowledge.

Why Publish? 94

In which several publishers answer this curious question.

Audio Reviews 96

If it's on record, tape or CD, this is where to find it.

(Electric Ramen 115

A short story by Misha with an illustration by Oberc.

Book Reviews 122

Letters 130

The readers talk back.

Here's the basic subscription rates:

~~Regular subscription (anywhere in North America): $3.00 or~~ 8 IRCs per issue up to five issues, $16 or 40 IRCs for a six issue (one year) subscription.

First class subscription (U.S. only): $3.75 per issue up to five issues, $21 for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Library subscription (includes the index and first class mailing in a protective envelope) (U.S. only): $4.50 per issue up to five issues, $23 for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Air Mail subscription (outside U.S. only): $7 or 18 IRCs per issue up to five issues, $38 or 95 IRCs for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Lifetime subscription (anywhere in North America): $75.

Lifetime subscription (outside of North America): $190.

Supporting subscription (anywhere in North America): $125.

Supporting subscription (outside of North America): $330.

I accept for payment cash (U.S. or otherwise), check or money order *drawn in U.S. funds*, MasterCard or Visa, unused U.S. stamps or international reply coupons. Please note that I cannot accept checks or money orders drawn in foreign currency. I am, however, happy to accept cash (bank notes) from any country at the official rate of exchange. If you live in a country whose currency does not convert, please write and we'll work out a deal. Those in the Warsaw Pact are encouraged to request a sample copy in exchange for local publications, underground or otherwise.

FF now takes MasterCard and Visa! (Awesome, isn't it?) For orders over $10 *only*, you can charge it, by mail, phone, or computer. By mail, be sure to send your card type (MasterCard or Visa), number, expiration date, issuing bank, billing address, name as it appears on the card, and a daytime phone number, as well as your signature. By phone, call (518)-479-3707 and leave the same informaton (minus the signature, of course). By computer, call the FF BBS at (518)-479-3879 and take the (Q)uestionnaire option from the main menu.

Welcome to another issue of the zine of crosscurrents and cross-pollination. Available by mail or in person from Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502; phone (518)-479-3707 (24-hour answering machine, so call anytime); 300/1200/2400 baud phone (518)-479-3879 (call anytime you have a computer handy). Compuserve address is 72271,275; from InterNet, you can get there by addressing mail to 72271.275@compuserve.com. On The Well, I'm ffmike; the Netmail address for this is ffmike@well.sf.ca.us. This is Pretzel Press publication #833 and is intended for direct Bulk Mailing to subscribers and good people across the country, around the world, and right into your face. Press run: 7800 copies. 36th issue, June 1990.

This is where I explain the mailing code, on the far right of the first line of the address label.

A number indicates the last issue that you'll be getting. So if the number is "36", you need to Do Something if you want to keep getting FF. If the number is "36" and you don't even know why you got this, you probably have a Secret Admirer or something. Wanna subscribe?

There are a couple of things that can flank this number. If it's flanked with asterisks (*36*), you've paid for, and should be getting, first class postage. If it's flanked with carets (^36^), then this is a trade copy for which you paid first-class postage, after which you will revert to bulk-mail trade copies. If it's flanked with plus signs (+36+) you're getting a library subscription, including first-class postage, mailing envelopes, and the index.

"!" indicates that you've got nothing to worry about, because you're on the staph, you won a contest, or you just got lucky.

"A" means that you're getting this because of your artwork; either you sent me some or I want you to send me some, or both.

"B" means I'm trading for a book you sent.

"D" means that you're a distributor and so you get one copy for yourself as a freebie. I'm looking for new distributors, people who think they can sell at least ten copies and want to split the proceeds. Distributors get a 40% wholesale discount on all copies, and may sell on consignment. The number after the colon is how many copies I think I'm sending you. For more information on terms, send an SASE.

"L" means you're a lifetime subscriber, and will receive every issue of the magazine as long as either it or you is alive. Lifetime subscribers get their copies sent out bulk mail, without extra goodies. If you want extra goodies, you should be a supporting subscriber (see below) instead. Lifetime subscribers may upgrade to supporting status at any time by paying the current difference in rates.

"M" means you sent me music to review. I usually allow 2 issues for a single, 3 for a tape, or 4 for an LP, but I screw up a bit, so let me know if you're owed more. (Or less).

"P" means you're a prisoner. **FACTSHEET FIVE** is always free to prisoners, but you need to keep in touch to keep getting it, otherwise I'll assume the copies aren't getting through to you. Wardens, you gotta pay like anyone else. Prisoners in mental institutions are extended the same privileges as those in allegedly-saner criminal institutions.

"R" means that this is a review/checking copy. It is for you to have to check the review I've done of your zine, or to be able to do a review of mine. I would like to see further copies of yours for future review—though of course you're not obligated to publish a review. I will continue to send you R copies as long as I stay on your mailing list, whether you write reviews or not. If you publish infrequently, I expect at least a note every six months to keep you on the mailing list.

"R?" means that I'd like you to consider sending copies of your zine in return for review/checking copies of mine.

"S" means that you are a Supporting Subscriber, and therefore exempt from nonsense. Supporting subscribers get their issues sent First Class, with the index included. They also get free copies of **FACTSHEET FIVE** publications as they're issued—most recently the **WHY PUBLISH?** booklet. Right now we're up to about 97 Supporting subscribers, but there's always room for one more. Just to encourage you, I'm going to send the 100th Supporting Subscriber free copies of **HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE, WHY PUBLISH?, NOBODY LOVES A VISUAL ARTS CRITIC,** a **FACTSHEET FIVE** T-shirt, and a set of back issues—if this happens to you, it'll be like getting your Supporting subscription for free!

"V" means you sent me a videotape to review. If you require the tape to be returned, one video is good for one issue in trade; if you leave it with me for the archives, one video is worth four issues.

Any of the above followed by a number (like "M/36") indicate the issue you'll have to renegotiate to keep getting FF. *You must get in touch with me at least once every two issues, regardless of the mailing code, to continue getting* **FF**! This applies to prisoners, artists, traders, everyone!

Send me your zine, drop me a line, do **SOMETHING** so I know you're still out there. Actually, this doesn't apply to subscribers, only to people getting the zine for free. Clear?

Please take a moment to check your mailing label. If there are any mistakes, you have to let me know. They won't fix themselves. And you won't get any further warning if your subscription has run out.

And remember, **FF** is sent *bulk mail*. Not only does this make it slow (though, I hope, not *too* slow), but it means undeliverable copies go to that Big Post Office In The Sky. So **PLEASE** get your COAs to me promptly to avoid missing issues. I am not responsible for copies lost due to unannounced moves.

Unless you specify otherwise, all subscriptions start with the current issue.

TIRED OF WAITING FOR BULK MAIL? You can upgrade a Bulk Mail subscription to First Class delivery at any time by sending $1 for each issue remaining on your Bulk Mail subscription. Publishers and others who get their issues without paying may have them delivered first class for $1 per issue. This rate is only valid if you would have received that issue anyhow.

Thanks to An Amazing Food Into Shit Machine, Clif Bennett, Suzanne Degaetano, Frank, Julie Jared, Steve MacDonald, Malok, Don O'Malley, Pinto, Joop Q., Joe Workman, and Donna Young for their generous donations towards publishing this issue. I am much encouraged by the number of generous publishers willing to contribute to keeping FF alive. I don't require publishers to subscribe, but if you can afford it, I appreciate it and it helps.

If you want **FF** sent to a friend, just send me their address and $3, or $3.75 if you're in a hurry. **FF** makes a great Christmas, birthday, or Bar Mitzvah present. I'll mark it as a gift from you unless you specify otherwise.

In lieu of sending stamps, money, fanzines, artwork, books, or music, you can get FF by sending me something to review that I haven't seen before, or by bartering canned goods, negotiable securities, wind-up sushi, shark's teeth, Magic Rocks, limited edition wallpaper, or other interesting or amusing flotsam from our society.

Thanks to Rane Arroyo, Herb Ashe, Bag of Water, Don Baker, Carl Bettis, Bob Black, Mykel Board, Erich Brown, Brian Burch, Randy Burroughs, Donald F. Busky, Diane Callahan (hang in there), Jon Cone, Tom Conlon, Jeff Copenhagen, Tim Cridland, Mog Decarnin, Paul Di Filippo, Tim Dimick, Gerald England, Terry Evanson, Filthy Pierre, Phelps Gates, Robert Gordon, Brian Grimm, Gene Guthrie, Rick Harrison, Hodad, Wayne Honath, Jacek, Michael Jacobs, Herb Jue, Jim Kern, Amy Losee, Mike Marinacci (and thanks for the PR work), Chris Martin, Mark McBride, Tony Miller, Fred Mills, Brad Mitchell, Mark Neville, New Hope International, Walt Noiseux, James Nolan, Luis Perez, Raoul, L.A. Rollins, Earl Root, Mark Rose, Phil Scalice, Joe schwind, Jonathan Seidenfeld, Richard Shannon, Thomas H. Slone, David Sonenschein, Dale Speirs, Spike, Jim Testa, Cheryl Townsend, Robert Winson, Martin Morse Wooster, and Bud Wooten for sending new and unknown zines for me to review in this issue. I regret that I am unable to review the majority of material arriving in this fashion before establishing contact with the publishers. This is solely due to the increasing pressure on my time. I really am grateful to those of you out there acting as my spotters in the world of the small press, and wish I could review everything—but the priority goes to those folks actively trading with me. Special thanks to Jacek for the pile of Polish material, to Randy Burroughs for the old SF fanzines, to J. Concrete of **NO AARHUS** for another pile of classic Scandinavian zines, to David Walbridge for the balloons, to James Hankins for the card, to Katrina Kelly for the canned goods, to Henry Schneider for the set of back issues of the **PUGger**, and to Paul Di Filippo for the nifty fractal t-shirt.

A glossary of unusual terms used in FF is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Guidelines for artists are available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- **Artware** has had a slight change of address to Uwe Hamm-Furrholter, Taunusstrasse 63b, D-6200 Wiesbaden, WEST GERMANY.
- **BANZAI** has moved to PO Box 7522, Overland Park, KS 66207.
- **BIG DICK WORSHIP** has fled to PO Box 961, Simsbury, CA 06105.
- Ric E. Braden and Rice Records are at PO Box 191542, San Francisco, CA 94119-1542.
- **COMLINK** and Allyson M. W. Dyer may now be reached at 932 ADS Box 1076R, FPO New York, NY 09571-2105.
- **DECONTROL** has decamped to PO Box 404, Duluth, GA 30136-0404.
- **DIFFERENT DRUMMER** and Erin Hooper have marched off to 3300 Topaz Ln. #C-1, Fullerton, CA 92631.
- **DISCOTEXT** has danced off to Box 103, 8415 Granville St., Vancouver, BC, V6P 4Z9, CANADA.
- Donny the Punk is now reachable as Robert Martin 09368-054, PO Box 900 Mohawk Unit, Ray Brook, NY 12977. He's back inside on a technicality—parole violation—and not a new crime, so don't start those rumors going.
- **EARTHDOG NEWS** and Club Fred have moved to c/o Snevil, JAF Box 8274, New York, NY 10116-8274.
- **ELECTRONIC COTTAGE** has had a change of Zip Code and is at PO Box 3637, Apollo Beach, FL 33572.
- **FLAMING SIN** will be burning at 571 Potomac Ave., Buffalo, NY 14222.
- **FREEDOM NETWORK NEWS** and the International Society for Individual Liberty have relocated to 1800 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102.
- GGE Records has moved to PO Box 1784, Kent, OH 44240.
- **GRINNIK** and Joop have moved to Lammergierstr. 48, 6215 AJ Maastricht, HOLLAND.
- **GROINK!** and Satanburger Laboratories may be contacted at PO Box 86493, Portland, OR 97286.
- Sean Wolf Hill, **COUNTER CULTURE, COMPOST MODERN LIFE**, and the Zip-A-Di-Doo-Dada Foundation will be zipping over to 7625 Casstown-Clark Rd., Casstown, OH 45312.
- The Madman of San Anselmo, Gus JaFolla, is now committed to PO Box 276, Pt. Reyes Stn., CA 94956-0276.
- **MUTATED VIRUSES** and Angi have changed over to 818 W. Diversey #G, Chicago, IL 60614.
- **NIGHT MOUNTAINS** and Lorrie Beaver are not up at PO Box 50462, Indianapolis, IN 46250-0462.
- **NOVOID** and Colin Hinz are *really* at 203 Laclie St., Orillia, ONT, L3V 4N6, CANADA. Honest.
- The Nuclear Platypus Church of Arglebargle wallows at PO Box 30116, St. Louis, MO 63119.
- **ORDURE** and Fresh A are now in PO Box 801, Kingston, NH 03848.
- **SCATALOGICA** and Daniel Ryan have moved yet again to 4301 E. 29th St. #175, Tucson, AZ 85711-6369.
- **SKULL DUGGERY** and Cosgriff Productions can now be dug up at 77 Scituate Ave., Scituate, MA 02066.
- **SKULL SESSION** and Brad Mitchell are holding court at 3187 Keynes Court, Mississauga, ONT, L5N 2Z7, CANADA.
- **SPEW AND REVIEW** and Bob Konshak have sped off to 1315 W. Maynard Dr. #56, St. Paul, MN 55116.
- **SYSTEM OPPOSED** and Camille are now at PO Box 1857, Tustin, CA 92680.
- **TICKET** and Christopher B. Martin have taken the train to Rt. 1 Box 373, Charlottesville, VA 22901-9605.
- Glen Venezio is now c/o Cindy Venezio, 4-B Hawthorne Ave., Middlesex, NJ 08846.
- **VICIOUS HIPPIES FROM PANDA HELL** have a new cage at PO Box 34, Portland, OR 97207.

Remember, since it costs me 30¢ just to get your COA if the Post Office tells me, and remailing your FF would cost me the price of another copy plus first class postage (they don't return whole issues, just covers), I'm not inclined to send you a replacement when this happens. If you want to keep your collection complete, send me your Change of Address as soon as you know it!

LOST ADDRESSES

Anybody got a current address for any of these?

- Archives Szukalski—I reviewed their catalog in #35, forgot to print the address, and now I can't find it either. Maybe some things man was not meant to know?
- Frank Von Annenberg/Holistic Network
- Judson Crews (Wanted by Rosemary West)
- Denise Dee
- Greg(or), of Salem, MA (wanted by Geof Huth)
- Nemesis Records, who sent two nice records to review and no address.
- **RIFF RAFF**
- Sandrew, a vanished subscriber from Malden.
- **TECHNO ACID BEAT** (Wanted by President Journal, General Delivery, Tofield, AB, T0B 4J0, CANADA).

By the way, if you've had any correspondents go missing lately, feel free to send their names to be added to this listing.

DEAD ZINES

All of the following have ceased publication in the last few months:

- **BIG SISTER**
- **BUF-O**
- **ENDLESS STRUGGLE**
- **HOMELESS BRAGG RAG**
- **JUICY SNAP**
- **THE LEIGHTON LOOK** (suspended until at least September)
- **RIGHT HERE MAGAZINE**

- **SINGIN' DOSE ANTI-PSYCHOTIC BLUES** (due to FBI harassment)
- **TAX WATCH**
- **TRAVEL VIEW ONE** (but the Travel View 1 pen-pal club continues; see "Other News" below)
- **WOMEN'S SKILLS AND RESOURCE EXCHANGE**

ERRATA

•There was a misprint in the address for **CARIBBEAN NEWSLETTER** in the last issue. The correct address is PO Box 20392, Park West Finance Sta., New York, NY 10025.

•The **HANDS TO** tape "Chamaco" reviewed in #33 is available from New Flesh, 2837 NW 66th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73116, for $4.

•We omitted the address for the **PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER** Mac computer text disk. It's $2 from Richard Freeman, 130 W. Limestone, Yellow Springs, OH 45387.

•Payments for **PURITY** should be made to Timothy Renner, not Octoberwind Grafx.

•**RAPS CLACK CACLSPAR** costs $2 from Michael Helsem, 203 S. Edgefield #10, Dallas, TX 75208.

•I got the Zip Code wrong in my review of **THE TAO OF BISCUITISM** (FF35, p. 122). The correct address is 7630 Alicia, St. Louis, MO 63143.

•The Trikes "Biscuit Days" record is available for $6 from Secret Sqwhirl Records, 16923 Chatsworth, Granada Hills, CA 91344.

HALL OF SHAME

I have unresolved complaints of non-delivery about the following zines. Write for them at your own risk.

•**CROW**, Bill-Dale Marcinko, Wharton, NJ.

T-SHIRTS

•Got the latest offering from **Alternative Graphics** — a white shirt showing s sort of flamboyant tramp with a caption from Thoreau: "Beware of all Enterprises that Require New Clothes". It's purple ink on a 100% cotton shirt, available for $9 from PO Box 124 Sta. F, Buffalo, NY 14212. They'll send you a catalog for an SASE.

•**Anichti Poli**, the Greek underground/hippie/anarchist/Discordian zine is out with their tenth anniversary t-shirts. They feature the magazine logo, the caption "Transgalactic Travelers" in Greek, a child marching into the future and the eye in the pyramid getting blasted by lighting over the words "Non Serviam". I assure you no one else on the block will have one of these. You can get a copy in black on white or yellow 100% cotton for $14 from V. Rassias, PO Box 20037, GR-11810 Athens, GREECE.

•**The Bud Collins Trio** sent along a nice shirt. In black on white, it shows a face changing several times from clowning to perplexed to scared to smiling as a hand passes over it—a sort of magical mystery mime. It's all cotton, and available for $10 from Pat Guiney, 50 Thompson Rd., N. Franklin, CT 06254; sizes M, L and XL only.

•**THE EELS** (46 Rossmore Rd. #2, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130) sent a t-shirt to go along with their new tape. On the back of this black shirt there's a green-and-white coiled eel with one glaring eye and the band name wrapped around it; the front has a picture of an electric eel trapped in some sort of experimental jar. No price listed, but this 100% cotton shirt is pretty classy.

•**Fantaco** (21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210) sent me a couple of shirts for the publications put out. The first is for **GORE SHRIEK**, featuring a disintegrating zombie face on the front and "Warning: Contains disturbing material and is not intended for children!" on the back. White and red on a black 50/50 shirt, this one is $14. The other is for **DEEP RED** and has a pair of staring eyes captioned "DEEP RED Delivers". This one is white on red, and $12. Orders under $40 add $4 shipping, and they can't ship to PO Boxes.

•**GET THE FUNK OUT** is the caption on the front of a shirt available from Bruce Piscitello (1600 Mine Lane Rd., Easton, PA 18042). The back says simply "FREE JAMES BROWN". They're white ink on a black 50/50 shirt, available in large or medium for $10 ppd (Cash preferred, MO accepted).

•**Jake the Rabbit** has his own shirt by now. It features Jake himself on a sort of stylized city background, pondering "I think..." in the word balloon. Black ink on a white all cotton shirt, and

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$10
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•**LIFE IS A JOKE** (Joe Franke, 2288 Hawk, Simi Valley, CA 93065) sent their rather cryptic shirt. The front says simply, in discreet letters, "DO NOT SLEEP". The back has the zine name, a logo of a baffled-looking skull surrounded by arrows and bones, and "ABSOLUTE DESTRUCTION IS GODLIKE", flanked by two negation symbols. White ink on a black 100% cotton shirt, $10 postpaid, L and XL only.

•The shirts from **Little Green Man** (3776 Manila Ave., Oakland, CA 94609) which I reviewed in #33 are available for $12 plus $2 shipping each, You should really send a buck for their catalog, especially since that amount is refunded with your first order.

•**Stark Grafixs** has a new shirt out with a digitized picture of a nude pin-up girl with the word CULTURE stamped boldly across her backside. It's a statement, though of what I'm not precisely sure. $11 ppd, black on a 100% cotton shirt in M,L or XL from PO Box 170381, San Francisco, CA 94117. They'll send a catalog on request.

•**TWISTED** has a shirt that simply says "TWISTED SKATE MAG" on the front—very discreet. White ink on a black all-cotton shirt, and I don't know the price but you can get it from 11698 Howitzer Ln., Woodbridge, VA 22192.

GAMES

•**Dark Cults** ($7.95 from Dark House, RR1 Box 140-A, Theilman, MN 55978): "The Horror Story Game" is designed for folks who like the eerie and want to enhance their own storytelling abilities. The basic rules are for two players (variants encompass everything from 4-handed play to solo adventures), one as Life and one as Death. With the help of a deck of 108 cards such as "old decaying town" and "gruesome eavesdropped conversation", the players put together a story and get points according to how well the protagonist survives. The artwork is quite moody, with a classic-era comics feel to it, and there are sufficient ideas here to put together all sorts of stories from the Lovecraftian to the hard-boiled detective—indeed, some might find this a useful plotting aid as well. 108 cards, a manual, and a supplement with some fiction and ideas for further enhancements.

ARTIFACTS

•**Authentic Hawaiian Sunshine** is available, in a can, for $3 from Jim Storm (Paperback, 1154 Fort St. #102, Honolulu, HI 96813), who just happens to be the sole Hawaiian distributor of FF. It comes in a can about the size of an orange-juice container, appropriately labeled, and what happens after you open it is up to you.

•**Badges** (i.e., buttons) are available relatively cheaply from Mark Pawson, PO Box 664, London, E5 0JW, UK. For £12 plus 20% shipping to the States he can make you 100 1" diameter buttons in a variety of colors. Write for details, and perhaps send a buck or two for samples—I got a handful ranging from Dobbsheads to green teeth.

•**The Church of Tina Chopp** (PO Box 1914, Bellingham, WA 98227-1914) sent along a pair of buttons: "Tina Chopp is God!" proclaims one, while the other chimes in with "Tina Chopp is God! Praise Her or *Die!!*" Available for $1 each.

•**Doctor Death Stickers** come from Webster Colcord (PO Box 40347, Portland, OR 97240-0347) who, not surprisingly, is the guy behind the Doctor Death video we reviewed a few issues back. For $1 you can get the complete set of 8 stickers, reminiscent of bubble-gum cards in size and layout.

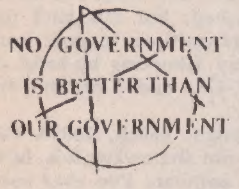
•**Empiri-Sign** ($2 (?) from SFC, PO Box 147, Sta. J, Toronto, ONT, M4J 4X8, CANADA) is an armband designed as a protest against the high culture/low culture distinction made in the world of art. It's got a brain silkscreened on it, and comes with a card explaining its use in maintaining artistic hipness.

•**"MAKE YOUR PARENTS GO CRAZY-TELL THEM THE TRUTH"** is the legend on a psychedelic button I got from Ephemera (275 Capp St., San Francisco, CA 94110). For their catalog of this and hundreds of other designs, send them 4 25¢ stamps.

•**NO NUCLEAR NAVY** is the slogan on a bumpersticker available for 50¢ from Citizens Against Patriotism, 36 Erskine Dr., Morristown, NJ 07960. As it's a modified copy of a real Navy bumpersticker, the quality is quite high.

6010
rainbow bleed

5040
purple



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•**...of the jungle** (PO Box 1801, Sebastopol, CA 95473) sent me some kava, a dream-inducing tranquilizer from Fiji. Actually, they sent two versions. First comes the shredded root ($15/8 ounces), with instructions on how to prepare it in either traditional or modern fashion. I must report, though, that even the modern fashion tasted something like a cross between mud and mold on the way down. More pleasurable was their own pre-extracted resin ($10/10 grams), which comes in its own ziplock bag and was quite relaxing indeed.

•**The Space Pet** ($4 ppd. from Bookshop International, 10 Oak Crest Ln., Coplay, PA 18037) is a small plastic lens-like object with some curious properties. The most engaging of these is that if you place it on a slick surface and start it spinning clockwise it will slow down and actually reverse its rotation. This intriguing toy has been featured in **SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN**; now I know where to get one.

•**The Time Loop** ($1 from Pilliard Dickle, PO Box 1077, Newnan, GA 30264) is a time-travel comic strip printed on a Moebius strip. It thus continues forever, in a self-referential paradoxical fashion. This one was a big hit at the recent FF party.

SOFTWARE

•I will review IBM-PC compatible software personally, and have reviewers for MacIntosh, Amiga, Apple II and Commodore 64 software, so if you know of any interesting programs for these machines, please put them in touch with FF.

•**4DOS** (Shareware on FF BBS; registration $50 from J.P. software, PO Box 1470, East Arlington, MA 02174): This is a replacement command processor for MS-DOS/PC-DOS, the operating system used on IBM PC's and compatibles. Most such programs take the form of a menu-driven shell which give you on-screen intuitive ways to move files around, call programs, and so on. These programs have their place for those new to the PC or who want a different metaphor for action than MS-DOS offers. But for me, 4DOS is a vastly superior command processor. It fixes the worst idiocies in MS-DOS (for example, the absence of a MOVE command) while not cluttering up the screen with menus—in fact, it operates from the stark beauty of the C: prompt that power users are used to. Among the enhancements (besides new and extended commands) are full aliasing, on-line help, better command line editing, an enhanced and much faster batch file processor and swapping to disk, EMS or XMS to reduce memory requirements. The command language is so powerful that I'm still learning how best to use it, and for help with that there's support via the PCVENB forum on Compuserve. And as icing on the cake, 4DOS is designed to work well with SWAPDOS, which was reviewed in **FF35**. Recommended for anyone who's comfortable with DOS and wants a sensible extension. (IBM)

•**FidoTerm** (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registration $12 from Tom Jennings, PO Box 77731, San Francisco, CA 94107): A while ago I tried to learn Procomm, because the idea of having a telecommunications package that could automatically sign on was attractive. The program proved too bizarre and complex for me, and went back in its box. Now, fortunately, I have FidoTerm, and it works fine. This is a communications package that gives you a glass teletype with just a few well-chosen enhancements, the chief of which is a script language that works (and an entertaining section of the manual on using it. You can set all the parameters you probably have to, including baud rate and port and parity and all that neat stuff. Extra nice things built in include a special screen debugging mode that will give hints about what's going wrong with a connection, plus Xmodem and Zmodem support. Tom is the author of the popular FidoNet BBS software and editor of the fun **HOMOCORE** zine, and this project is as well-done as the rest of his stuff. Why pay more? (IBM)

•**HDM IV** (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registration $50 from MicroFox, Jim Hass, 3310 Fox Run, PO Box 447, Richfield, OH 44286-0447): I'm not a big fan of most menu systems for the IBM PC; when you've been using the machine as long as I have, they get in the way, and they're not flexible enough to get unfamiliar users going. I still have no special need to use this one for myself, but the next time I have to set something up for users who are not computer people, this is going to be my tool of choice. Hard Disk Menu can handle up to 100,000 separate actions, from checking a disk directory to running a program, and can be customized to your heart's content. Almost anyone can add a program to the menu, following a simple set of prompts; power users can make the machine jump through hoops, thanks to a flexible set of meta-commands and a macro-capability. It's easy to set up sub-menus for users, to have the computer dial the modem, or to execute a function on a schedule—all things that are beyond most menu programs. Screens can be rearranged and color-customized (though I would have liked EGA/VGA graphics) and after a program is run, the user is put back in the HDM menus, so they never have to deal with DOS unless they want to. (IBM)

•**Medlin Accounting Shareware** (Shareware version on **FF** BBS; registration $35 per program from Jerry Medlin, 1461 Sproul Ave., Napa, CA 94559): I knew I was going to like these when I found that Jerry is an industrial engineer who got tired of following folks around with a stopwatch (the same career path I took), and I wasn't disappointed. This is a set of four easy-to-use accounting programs which can handle most of the tasks any small business needs. The heart of the system, and the part I have checked out most thoroughly, is **PC-GL**—a General Ledger program. It comes set up with a standard chart of accounts that is easy to customize, and anyone with a bit of accounting experience can get it up and running quickly. (The program will *not* teach you double-entry accounting, though the hints in the manual may be enough to get you started). Data entry is easy and the keypad switches back sensibly from numbers to arrow keys, making for easy one-hand operation. Reports, including balance sheets and income statements, are also easy to get out. It handles up to 6000 transactions per period (typically one month) and 800 accounts, and maintains an adequate paper trail. The companion programs **PC-AP** (for accounts payable), **PC-AR** (for accounts receivable) and **PC-PR** (for payroll) show the same care, and some hints are given on how to move data from one to another (the package is not completely integrated, but this isn't really a drawback as there are typically few transactions to post from one to another). I found a $65 error in my laborious by-hand double entry system the first day I used **PC-GL**, and I haven't stopped using it since. (IBM)

•**MANDELBROT 3** ($25 from Midnight Beach, 1805A Felt St., Santa Cruz, CA 95062): This program is not shareware; it is, however, one of the best values in recreational software I've ever seen and was the hit of the most recent **FF** party. It's a program that draws the Mandelbrot Set, and pieces thereof. That's not unusual; however, it has all the little touches it needs to be a great program. This includes support for EGA, VGA, mice, different CPUs and co-processors; a super-fast method of sketching the set so that you can zoom in on features of interest without waiting all day; a "Jump" facility to get to regions of interest quickly (and of course the ability to save and reload pictures); multiple colorings including great psychedelic animated ones; and lots more. The manual is clear and includes theory as well as practice. It would be nice to have a full-screen mode, and user adjustment on the palettes, but overall I am more than satisfied with this software. (IBM)

•**PC-FASTYPE** (Registered version 4.0 $28 from Trendtech Corporation, PO Box 3687, Wayne, NJ 07474-3687; shareware version available for downloading on the **FF** BBS): A touch-typing tutor for the IBM PC user who has decided to bite the bullet and learn how to do things right...which often translates into doing them quickly. It starts off with basic "home key" (asdfjkl;) exercises, and builds to paragraphs of text at a pace controlled by the user. There are extensive menus and on-line help as well as documentation on disk. The screen for the drills shows the text at the top and a map of your keyboard at the bottom, graphically showing you the mistakes you make as you're making them (like other display features, this can be turned on or off at will). If you exhaust the text shipped with the program it will take files from your word processor as input for practice text. The registered version comes with a printed manual that explains the basics of touch-typing. Well-done and useful. (IBM; requires CGA, EGA or VGA display)

•**PC-GLOSSARY** **hareware version on FF** BBS; registered version $29 from Disston Ridge, 4915 22nd Ave. N, St. Petersburg, FL 33710): A collection of nearly 500 screens of definitions of PC-related words, from Abend to Zmodem, with a simple front-end search mechanism. Concise definitions of things like BIOS, Token-ring, Syntax and 640K Barrier are provided. There's also tables of things like models of the PS/2 or the capacities of different floppy diskettes. This is not for the power user; I didn't see anything here that I didn't already know. But beginners might benefit from the clearness of these definitions. Several obvious enhancements would add greatly to the program's usefulness; these include the ability to jump to cross-reference items and a list of books for further followup on various topics. (IBM)

•**Pianoman** (Registered version $25 from Support Group, Inc., PO Box 130, McHenry, MD 21541; shareware version on the FF BBS): This is the best music program I've found that works within the limits of the PC's single speaker. What Pianoman does is give you a music processor to go with your word processor. You can enter tunes by typing in their notes or playing them on the regular keyboard remapped to resemble a piano, and then go into a special editing mode. This mode lets you copy and delete notes, change their duration or pitch, and generally "fine-tune" the music. When you're done, you can compile up to 4 voices into a single mock-polyphonic tune, set up a self-playing tune that runs from the DOS prompt, or even turn your tune into a SuperKey macro. If you're musically illiterate, there's a selection of tunes included with the shareware version, from the Doxology to the Monty Python theme, to amuse your friends. The software is visually appealing and seems to be bombproof—there were some minor annoyances with the shift key and the turbo mode on my machine, but nothing that I couldn't work around easily. (IBM)

•**REMIND!** Version 6.0 (Sample version on **FF** BBS, full version $24.95 from Schnapp Software Consulting, PO Box 261901, San Diego, CA 92126): This is a "tickler" file program designed to remind you of important dates that you told it to remember. Unlike many such programs, it is not memory resident; run it from your autoexec file or whenever you want to know what's coming up in your life. The chief selling point is an extremely flexible date format. You can tell it about things that happen every third day, about things that happen the last Tuesday of each month, or things that happen every two weeks for the next eight weeks, for example, as well as about appointments for a specific day or date. The interface allows for some customization, but the text-based graphics are nothing to write home about. It certainly does what I need from such a program, which is to remind me when it's time to give the dogs their heartworm pill, for example. (IBM)

•**Rubicon Publisher** Version 2.0 (Shareware on the **FF** BBS; registered version $89 from Rubicon Computer Labs, 2 Rue des Pommiers, Hull, QUE, J8Z 2M2, CANADA): This is a desktop publishing program designed for users on a budget. Not only is it reasonably priced, but it does not require too much fancy hardware—there is even a version available that will run on a dual-floppy machine with no hard disk. Naturally, you give something up with this, and that is WYSIWYG capability—the ability to see on-screen what the document will look like before you print it out. Instead, Rubicon is a batch processor, which takes a file interlaced with commands and outputs the final version directly to the printer—a technique which will be familiar to users of RUNOFF, TEX, or various professional typesetting systems.

The registered version comes with a nice spiral-bound manual (on disk in the shareware version) that explains both the basics of typesetting and the intricacies of using Rubicon to master them. It's well-done and straightforward; I turned a file into a nice bit of LaserJet output within ten minutes after I was finished reading. The package also includes style sheets to help you get started with typical applications such as publishing two-column letter-sized output.

Rubicon is a pretty full-featured package, with such niceties as true hyphens, kerning and tracking, adjustable superscripts, and support for tables. The weakest point is the typeface support. On a PostScript printer you can use the built-in fonts; on a LaserJet you can also use the built-in fonts, as well as Trajan and Renner, respectively serif and sans-serif fonts supplied with the package. I was frankly not thrilled with the design of either of these fonts; the "g" and "x" on Trajan are somewhat jarring, and the capital "M" and "N" on Renner are a disaster. Rubicon also supports authentic HP Times-Roman and Helvetica fonts; there is no provision for installing third-party fonts at all.

As of this writing, Version 2.1 is shipping, though I have not had a chance to play with it. It offers more fonts, an improved paragraph composition algorithm, automatic hyphenation, .PCX and .IMG graphics support, support for 200 printers, on-the-fly font compression, and third-party font support. With no price increase for this version, the upgrade should remove my minor complaints. For anyone on a budget, with access to a laser printer or good dot-matrix machine, and the savvy to handle the complexities of tagging and batch processing, this is an attractive alternative to $500 desktop publishing programs. (IBM)

•**The SWAP Utilities** ($25 for the first one and $20 for each additional, from Innovative Data Concepts, 1657 The Fairways #101, Jenkintown, PA 19046): This is another product that's gotten my vote of confidence via usage. Most IBM-PC users (myself included) have picked up some "resident utilities": programs which lurk in

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Lots of people already have: That's why there are so many Mandelbrot explorers out there. It's too bad most are slow and cost $35 or $40.

MANDELBROT 3 is simply the best fractal program you can buy: It's fast; it produces lots and lots of wonderfully psychedelic images; it's easy to use, and it's lots of fun.

The New York Times called it *well designed*, while **Jeff Duntemann** hailed its 'ergonomic' incremental draw as a *conceptual breakthrough*, and **Jerry Pournelle** found it *startlingly fast* and *absolutely gorgeous*.

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memory until they're needed, and then pop up at the touch of a key. For example, I use SideKick, which includes a calculator and a notepad and a phone dialer and a calendar and an ASCII table. Or rather, I used to use it. For programs like this are memory hogs, and as I started using bigger and bigger main programs (like Ventura Publisher), I couldn't keep SideKick loaded. So I took it off my computer, until this diskette showed up. What the Swap Utilities do is take a number of popular and large resident utilities and put them off in expanded memory, extended memory, or disk virtual memory, leaving behind a small (7K or thereabouts program to monitor keystrokes, calling them back in only when needed. This means I can and do load SideKick once again, at a negligible memory penalty. The program works as well as ever, and takes about a second to load. Other Swap Utilities handle SideKick Plus, Tornado, Metro, Memory Mate, PC Tools, and the Norton Guides. A lifesaver for the power user. (IBM)

•Much of the software reviewed in **FF** is available for downloading on the **FF** BBS (518-479-3879, 3/12/2400 baud, 24 hours). There are also a bunch of companies out there who sell shareware for a couple of bucks per disk. Some that have sent me catalogs recently include:

PC-SIG (1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086) maintains a large library with many of the most popular programs and also publishes **SHAREWARE** magazine. Members get a $2 discount on disks ordered from PC-SIG.

Shareware Elite (25 Cades Parc, Helston, Cornwall, TR13 8QS) is the only distributor I know of in the British Isles. They sent me their nifty hypertext catalog on a 3 1/2" diskette, with descriptions of 700+ titles, graphic screens from new additions to their library, a list of popular disks and much more.

Shareware Express (27601 Forbes Rd. #37, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677), a company that marks programs down from $4.95 to $2.95 for special sales, and takes orders toll-free at 800-346-2842.

Sizzleware (PO Box 6429, Lake Charles, LA 70606), a shareware distributor with a reasonably good stock and a price of $1.99 per diskette plus shipping. If you write they might send you a catalog.

•**Software updates:**

SPYBASE, the microcomputer guide to references to the intelligence community, continues to release new versions. The current release indexed over 92,000 references and is available for $49 from Micro Associates, PO Box 5369, Arlington, VA 22205. **SURVEY LAND YOURSELF** (reviewed in FF32) is out with a major upgrade, fixing bugs in the mapping program and reformatting the instructions to be easily browsed on screen. Still $5 from Cave, Inc., 1/2 Fast Rd., Ritner, KY 42639.

IMPORTANT EVENTS

•**National Flag Desecration Day** has been announced for June 15 (the day after Flag Day). This is a date to protest recent laws making this a crime, called by the National Flag Desecration Network. For more information send a large SASE to Angus T. McWhorter, 1010 Thoreau Ct., St. Louis, MO 63146; please do not mention flags or the Network on the envelope.

•**The International Conference on Shamanic Journeying and Healing** will be held June 21-24, 1990 in Niagara Falls, Canada. For more information write Crystal Vision Retreats, 65 Metcalfe #2, Toronto, ONT, M4X 1R9, CANADA or call (416)-927-1817.

•The next Earth First! **Round River Rendezvous** is scheduled for July 1-4, 1990, somewhere in Montana. For information, contact Earth First!,. PO Box 2358, Lewiston, ME 04241.

•The 1990 **Rainbow Gathering** will be held July 1-7, 1990, somewhere in Minnesota. For more information contact Rainbow Minnesota, PO Box 9777, Minneapolis, MN 55458.

•**CONCEPT** is a musician's festival held in Canada the week of July 1-7. For more information, contact Peter Riden, 4322 Cleroux, Chomeday, Laval, Montreal, H7T 2E3, CANADA.

•**The Other Economic Summit (TOES)** for 1990 will be held July 6-8, 1990 in Houston. Registration is $115, and you can write to TOES at 1442 Harvard St. NW, Washington, DC 20009 or call (202)-667-4659 for more information.

•The Ninth Annual **Fourth World Assembly**, a conference for those looking for local level solutions to planetary problems, will be July 11-15, 1990, in the Dallas area. For details contact Realistic Living, PO Box 140826, Dallas, TX 75214.

•**The 1990 International Tesla Symposium** will be held at the Hilton in Colorado Springs from July 26-29, 1990. For more information contact the International Tesla Society at 330-A W. Uintah St. #215, Colorado Springs, CO 80905-1095.

•**Vegetarian Summerfest 1990** is being held August 1-5 and is sponsored by the North American Vegetarian Society. It will be held at SUNY Geneseo, and weekend packages including meals and lodging start at $120. For more information contact NAVS at PO Box 72, Dolgeville, NY 13329.

•**The 12th Annual National Conservative Student Conference** is scheduled for August 12-18, 1990 in Washington, DC. For more information write Young America's Foundation, 11800 Sunrise Valley Dr., Reston, VA 22091 or call (703)-620-5270.

•**The Fourth Worldwide Conference of Community Oriented Radio** will take place in Dublin, Ireland, August 12-19, 1990. For more information contact the National Association of Community Broadcasters, 32 Gardiner Place, Dublin, IRELAND; phone 353-1-788733.

•**PEPCON 1990** is fourth annual conference on polyfidelity sponsored by PEP. It will be held August 17-19, 1990. For more information contact PEP at PO Box 6306, Captain Cook, HI 96704-6306.

•**The Fourth North American Bioregional Congress** will be held at Lake Cobbosseecontee in Maine, August 19-26 1990. Fees for adults start at $125 for the week. For more information, Write to NABC IV c/o Gulf of Maine Books, 61 Maine St., Brunswick, ME 04011.

•**A Conference on Biostasis & Reentry** is being held at Asilomar (a conference center in California) August 24-26, 1990. This will include both technical sessions and political discussions for advocates of cryonics. Prices for the weekend start at $135. Contact Lifepact, PO Box 18698, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706; (916)-577-4746 for more information.

•**Sonic Disturbance** is a major festival of new music, sound sculpture, performance poetry and other audio events sponsored by the Cleveland Public Theatre, running September 12-23, 1990. For more information write to 1607 Clark Ave, Cleveland, OH, 44109 or call (216)-621-8738.

•Aleister Crowley's **"The Rites of Eleusis"** are scheduled to be performed at Conway Hall, London, England in October and November 1990. Each of the seven rites will be undertaken by a

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•**The Second Annual Collectible Paperback Expo** will be on October 13, 1990, at the Days Inn in New York City. Admission is $5 at the door, and dealer tables are $50. For more information contact Gryphon Publications at PO Box 209, Brooklyn, NY 11228 or call Gary Lovisi at (718)-646-6126 between 6PM and 10PM only.

•A national **Lesbian Conference** will take place April 24-28, 1991. The national planning office may be reached at PO Box 3057, Albany, NY 12203 or call (518)-463-1051; the conference itself will take place in Atlanta.

•**VOLGA-CON** is a science fiction convention being organized by the SF Club "The Wind of Time" in the USSR. It will take place September 8-14, 1991. For more information, write to Boris A. Zavgorodny, Volgograd-66, Central Post Office, Poste Restante, USSR.

•If you're interested in a pagan events, you should subscribe to Larry Cornett's calendar of festivals, gatherings, and so on. $4 per year from 9527 Blake Ln. #102, Fairfax, VA 22031.

MAIL ART

•**H.T. Adams** (E-13 Jones Mobile Home Park, Norcross, GA 30093-2504) is putting together a mail art project involving 120 rolls of 120 size black and white film. He intends to develop the film, send back proof sheets with a section cut out to be part of the show. For details on submissions and returns, send an SASE.

•**Aesthetic Dialogue Discourse** (207 Sterling Pl., Brooklyn, NY 11238) sent a single sheet of technical images, recombined in such a fashion as to not make engineering sense. A later piece ends with the words "communication by request..."

•**Brain Cell** (Ryosuke Cohen, 3-76-1-A-613, Yagumokitacho, Moriguchi-City, Osaka 570, JAPAN) still comes out like clockwork about once a week. Participants get a multi-colored poster of stickers and rubber stamps. To get in on the fun, send a rubber stamp or 150 stickers of your own.

•**The Church of Christ** (PO Box 12461, Lake Park, FL 33403) is the front-group for collage artist Michael Voodoo, who drops envelopes of his latest work into my mailbox at irregular intervals.

•**Culture Direct** (c/o Paul Woods, 30 Coxhill Gardens, Dover, Kent, CT17 0PX, UK) shipped me my very own "Cultural Commodity", being a piece of cardstock with those words printed on it.

•**Paul N. Dion** (24 Main St., S. Grafton, MA 01560) will swap stickers, homemade tickets, and collages with those similarly inclined.

•**Driving Guide for the 1990's** (50¢ from Third Sun From the Stone, PO Box 555, Berkeley, CA 94701) is a pile of photocopy collages dealing with cars, malls and the growth of the American shopping ethic. Available in trade for other mail art.

•**E3** (Kazuyoshi Takeishi, Satsukiso, 3-11-17, Anamuna, Suginamiku, Tokyo 167, JAPAN) is a postcard-sized collection of images, 12 of them at a time, which is always looking for more contributions.

•**FaGaGaGa** (PO Box 1382, Youngstown, OH 44501) continues to send postcards on a regular basis. One of the latest asks "How About a Hype Strike?" Excellent idea.

•**General Jelly and Grease Co.** (7393 Rugby St., Philadelphia, PA 19138) is the latest harebrained project of Donald F. Busky, who has now managed to send an envelope full of grease through the US Mail. Congratulations.

•**The Gomes Addams Cabal** (Rev. Dr. Ian A. McAlister, PO Box 25458, Baltimore, MD 21217-0258) is interested in swapping mail art with an occult/SM or Discordian/SubGenius bent, especially collage.

•**Inversions** (1245 Webster, Santa Cruz, CA 95062) is a project from Brian Grimm. He's looking for people who will modify a simple image he provides, fill out a questionnaire, and agree to have the final product displayed in a series of galleries.

•**JK Stuff Works** (1104 N. Marshall #709, Milwaukee, WI 53202) will send you a pacakge of photocopied polemics and collages for $3 (cash/stamps/IRC). The packet to me included 14 bits of art and insanity, including a truly lovely polemic raging against the entire world.

•**Julee-Peezlee** (PO Box 4763, Boulder, CO 80306) has a continuing art installation project which would like your help. If you send her a postcard she will send you a small (1/2 ounce) jar, which you are to fill with something and send back. Be creative, and get involved.

•**Junk Mail** is not necessarily a derogatory term. In mail art, it refers to folks who send envelopes of whatever they have piled up to other people, who are expected to send goodies back in exchange. A few participants:

Alizarin (PO Box 127, Wickatunk, NJ 07765) sends big envelopes with stamps and stickers and photos and confetti and even some traditional junk mail inside.

Joy of Detritus (Chris Martin, Rt. 1 Box 373, Charlottesville, VA 22901-9605) includes literal junk mail and newspaper clippings, as well as less generic stuff.

Phoenix (PO Box 92007, Santa Barbara, CA 93190), whose envelope included a rubber roach, a telephone keypad and a Viewmaster disk as well as lots of paper. A second shipment was mainly photocopied political stuff from the radical end of the spectrum.

•**Kettle of Fisk #2** (1 stamp from afungusboy, PO Box 134, Brockport, NY 14420) is a single page of collage, mostly women in leotards and strange, disturbing questions, packed into an original collaged envelope and stuffed with (I think) wood chips.

•**Ruggero Maggi** (C.So Sempione 67, 20149 Milano, ITALY) continues to send the odd bit of European mail art y way. One of his latest projects is a drawing of a bath tub full of mail artists, to which correspondents are invited to add themselves before mailing back.

•**Malok** (PO Box 41, Waukau, WI 54980) sent a pile of glyphs, collages, photos, pamphlets and other goodies. He is currently seeking images and icons of "bliss" for a future project.

•**Christopher B. Martin** (Rt. 1 Box 373, Charlottesville, VA 22901-9605) will send you "an original color photo of a rather bored gal in a swimsuit" for 25¢ & an SASE.

•**Mike Film** (tentatively, a convenience, PO Box 382, Baltimore, MD 21203) is an art project designed to rid tent of the last vestiges of some old art projects. Get in touch and he'll send you some bits of movie film to be distributed as you see fit; the only requirement is to document their disposition and return this to him.

•**Millworks** (John Puglia, 540 S. Main St. Bldg. #17, Akron, OH 44311) is a non-profit that's setting up 3 galleries in buildings converted from old B.F. Goodrich factories. They're after submissions for an open show on the theme of "America", with a July 4 deadline. No size limit, no returns without postage, no censors, no jury.

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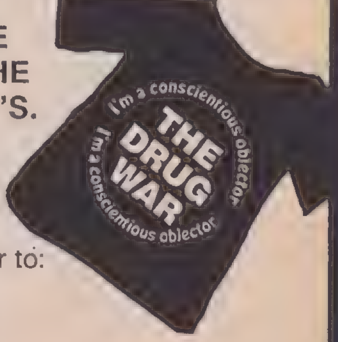

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•**Geza Perneczky** (Grosse Witschgasse 3-5, D-5000 Koln 1, WEST GERMANY) has issued a variety of material dealing with the Art Strike, from collaged propaganda supporting it to an intellectual analysis of why it is a bad idea.

•**Sandi Tan** (11C Balmoral Road, 01-01, Eden Spring, Singapore 1025, SINGAPORE) will send postcards and collages to anyone who sends something interesting in return, especially those who like the color orange.

•**Jerry Todd** (58 N. Columbus Ave., Mt. Vernon, NY 10553) sends out a variety of photocopied posters on an irregular basis, from cultural collages to tribal logos.

•**The World Art Project** (Stanley J. Shetka, 10247 40th St. W, Webster, MN 55088) is attempting to "collect one substance from every person in the world and with all the collected materials create a permanent public work of art". To participate, send your substance along with a signed one dollar bill which you have printed "WORLD ART PROJECT" on the border of.

OTHER NEWS

•**AES-NIHIL PRODUCTIONS** (PO Box 613, Reseda, CA 90093) sells a lot of books, articles, and tapes having to do with Charles Manson and related subjects, from the Process Church to Satanism. No price on the catalog, but $2 in cash or postal MO should do it.

•**AK DISTRIBUTION** (3 Balmoral Place, Stirling, Scotland, FK8 2RD) has a new mail-order catalog out, concentrating on anarchist and other underground titles. You can get a copy for a couple of IRCs, and if you have something that would benefit from distribution in the UK, they'd love to hear from you.

•**AMBERZINE** is an authorized zine about the Amber universe of Roger Zelazny, being put together by Erick Wujcik, who also did the official Amber RPG (due out in 1991). He's looking for material for the first issue to come out this fall, or will sell you one for $10 is you want to pay in advance for this trade paperback, 128+ page zine.

•**"Am I Evil?"** is the title of Jeff Gaither's first full-color print. It's much more representational than most of his work, but just as gory, featuring a greenish amphibious humanoid with a bloody ax crouched over a human arm. $15 will get you one of the 40 signed and numbered copies, mailed insured and securely packed.

•**Anarchy University** (Fido von Sydo, PO Box 03802-3082, Portsmouth, ME 03802) will send you information,an application and a certificate of ordination, all for a 25¢ stamp. What a bargain.

•**The Anonymous Movement for the Liberation of Imagination** (c/o PO Box 141, Bearsville, NY 12409) has issued a poster about transubstantiation, reification, and the possibilities for liberation through acts of sabotage. An SASE will probably get you a copy.

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5887 lincoln rd
ontario ny 14519

•**The Apostolic SubGenius Census Form** is available for an SASE from Dr. Edward "Skip" Stone, PO Box 8622, Salem, MA 01971. Why you'd want to fill out a rude questionnaire and send it back to a total stranger I'm sure I don't know, but the opportunity exists.

•**Archie McPhee** (PO Box 30852, Seattle, WA 98103) has a new catalog out, stuffed to the gills with Polish jumping octopi, potato guns, Bozo goods, plastic pigs, giant cockroaches, Pez dispensers, walking golfballs, used ammunition-handling mitts, Day of the Dead sculptures, practice bombs, obscure paper money, and all the other ephemera of a cool modern life. Send $2 for the catalog, and while you're at it ask them why they're not advertising in FF yet.

•**Artware** (Taunusstrasse 63.b, D-6200 Wiesbaden, WEST GERMANY) is an international distributor of "extreme/alternative cultures in all media". They'll send you their current 116-page catalog for $3. They're also interested in looking at new audio, video, and printed material looking for European distribution.

•**AS IS** (PO Box 60254, Oklahoma City, OK 73146) is looking for a copy of their own issue #17, since it's missing from their archives. If you can help, please write.

•**The Bellevue Press** (60 Schubert St., Binghamton, NY 13905) sells postcards of art, poetry, and other goodies for 50¢ a piece. They also have the final letter-press edition of **LEARNING TO FOXTROT**, a poetry volume reviewed in **FF35**, for $14.95 ($16 including NY sales tax).

•**Bible Believers** (1139 Bardstown Rd., Louisville, KY 40204) sent me a pile of tracts for no apparent reason, including one which claims that it wasn't for eating an apple that Eve got in trouble—it was "sex or adultery with the serpent."

•**Mykel Board** (#301 Hoyconfolt Sobudai, 3-4774-153 Sobudai, Zama-shi, Kanagawa 228, JAPAN) sells Japanese underground comics through the mail for dollars or yen. Send 2 IRCs for his current price list.

•**Bugs vs. Beans** is the theme of a postcard tract available by sending stamps to PO Box 41302, Tucson, AZ 85717-1302. It discusses the eternal war between bugs and beans and its significance.

•**Monty Cantsin** (PO Box 30, Stuyvesant Sta., New York, NY 10009) sent a small pamphlet of Neoist writing, excerpts from some travel notes of several years ago. You can get something for your SASE if you write.

•**Community Capital Bank** (PO Box 404920, Brooklyn, NY 11240) is still raising money to open its doors and offer socially-responsible lending in New York City, If you have $5000 to put towards a good cause, contact Allegra Azouvi for a copy of the Offering Circular.

•**The Crusade to Abolish Traffic Tickets** may be contacted at PO Box 15133, Honolulu, HI 96830.

•**CWM** (Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305) is a forthcoming magazine of experimental works "for the person of divergent tastes". Co-edited by David C. Kopaska-Merkel, the magazine is seeking submissions now. Be sure to enclose an SASE.

•**Francek Dobovisek** (Sercerjeva 1, 61230, Domzale, YUGOSLAVIA) is a free-lance journalist looking for Yugoslav and other current European radical contacts.

•**Chris Duffy** (PO Box 91, Makanda, IL 62958) sells comics by mail. Send an SASE for his latest price list update.

•**Earth Isle** (PO Box 1387, Bloomington, IN 47402) sent me a poster they did for Earth Day. It's 8 1/2 by 11, on heavy stock, and features a poem that seems to speak for all of nature, with the possible exception of people. Hand-colored copies are $3.95 including shipping and packaging.

•**EUTHANASIA** (Ron Lacer, 41 Mystic Ave., Medford, MA 02155) is having an auction of rare punk and hardcore records to finance the next issue. Bid deadline is June 30, so send an SASE soon if you're interested.

•**Fantome Press** (c/o Trumbull Art Gallery, 720 Mahoning Ave. NW, PO Box 888, Warren, OH 44482) sent me a big pile of block-print postcards, with a few poetry cards thrown in. They feature work from CM James and they also have Kenneth Patchen cards available. A buck will get you some samples.

•**FEAR**, a new experimental arts magazine, is looking for contributions of interesting writing or art. They also have extremely low ad rates—$1 for a full page. The deadline for the first issue is "June 31", according to their PR. For more details, write them at PO Box 1002, Brentwood, TN 37024-1002.

•**The First SubGenius Apostolic Church** (PO Box 8622, Salem, MA 01971) would love to send you a pamphlet and some flyers and what not explaining their own peculiar schism, in return for only $1 of your money.

•**Eric Fisher** is looking for publishers of zines with circulations 1000+ who would like to run his short fiction aimed for the average teen with a sense of humor. Terms are negotiable (but payment not expected) and a sample is available to publishers on request.

•**Five Billion To One** is a group that will help you worry about always being outnumbered. For more information write to Box 34064, Scotia Sq. Postal Outlet, Halifax, NS B3J 3S1, CANADA.

•**Fresh A of Ordure** is looking to start a new zine to explore Rimbaud's theories on "dereglement de tous les sens (arriving at the unknown by the rational disordering of all the senses)". Writ if you're interested: PO Box 801, Kingston, NH 03848.

•Two posters by Jochen "Fritte" Mönig are available for $1 Cash (postpaid anywhere in the world) from Jouni Wäärakangas, Poste Restante, 00980 Helsinki 98, FINLAND. The first features a grinning Cyclopean skull with a starign eye included. The second is a head being ground down on a citrus juicer by a mechanical hand. Shocking and eerie. Also available for $1 cash is a set of 4 postcards by Andy C. with psychedelic antiauthoritarian insanity as a general theme, or a set of 4 postcards by Joe E. showing fantasies flying around a young man.

•**The Gaia Catalogue** offers "Ecological and Spiritual Resources for an Awakening World"—chiefly books,but also tapes and small stone goddess statues, all with a Green/Earth feel to them. Catalog on request from 1400 Shattuck Ave. #9, Berkeley, CA 94709.

•**Richard Gaska** (2024 N. Manor Dr., Erie, PA 16505): sent me a batch of anarchist and related microfiche, with prices around $3. I hope to be able to get a review into the next issue.

•**Green Tortoise** (PO Box 24459, San Francisco, CA 94124) describes their famous alternative bus trips as being like "a youth hostel on wheels". Funky and fun, or so I understand—their schedule/catalog almost makes me want to take a bus trip to Alaska. Send a buck and I'm sure they'll get you some info.

•**Wayne Honath** (PO Box 11934, Pittsburgh, PA 15228-0934) has a set of a dozen 3-D postcards available (along with the colored glasses to resolve them) for $5 cash. They feature some drawings of Howie the Hat, other distressing comics, a housewife trapped in a threatening supermarket, and more.

•**ICRA** is the Islamic Correctional Reunion Association, a group providing instruction and support to prison inmates desirous of knowledge about Islam. For more information you can contact them at PO Box 774, Tinley Park, IL 60477-0774.

•**Ill-Vis Rules** (PO Box 1421, New Brunswick, NJ 08903) is staying busy putting out postcards and stickers. Some of their latest stickers feature Betty Page in a variety of poses, including some bondage shots. You can get some samples for $1 and a stamp. Also soon available for $1 cash and 2 stamps will be a newsletter for *Twin Peaks* fans, which is looking for material at the moment.

•**Kerry Lakes** (PO Box 302, VC, NV 89440) has some feminist posters which she'll send out in trade to anyone who sends "something politically cynical".

•**Dante Larsen** (PO Box 36M57, Los Angeles, CA 90036) sent along some curious postcards, drawings and collages with captions from the noösphere. I especially liked "READ MY LIPS" with its multiple decapitations. No price listed, but a buck might get you samples.

•**The Libertarian Book Club** is hosting a series of talks, with hopes of branching out to seminars, workshops and other events geared to present anarchist philosophy, all in the NYC area. For more information, write them at 339 Lafayette St. #202, New York, NY 10012.

•**Mailbox Books** (PO Box 1278, Roslyn, PA 19001, formerly Ed Zolna Inc., is giving away copies of their original comic **FRAN AN' MABBL #1**, which received a number of positive reviews. Postpaid in the US, Canadians add $1 for postage, offer ends July 31 or whenever they run out of copies.

•**THE MAINEIAC EXPRESS** brought out two fat tabloids of Maine humor in 1987 and 1988. It's no ceased publishing, but you can get either of those historic issues for $3 from RR1 Box 350, Coopers Mills, ME 04341.

•**Media Distribution Co-op** (1745 Louisiana St., Lawrence, KS 66044) sells a variety of specialized mailing lists, bibliographies and books for video makers, journalists, musicians and artists. Send an SASE for their latest catalog.

•**Miscellaneous Man** (PO Box 1776, New Freedom, PA 17349) is a poster company run by George Theofiles which sent me a couple of fine catalogs of their offerings: #23-S of Rare Posters, and #28 of Rare Patriotic Poster—the latter from WWI and WWII, and all combatants. Each item is pictured and described in some detail, with references where appropriate. There are hundreds of items in each of these catalogs, ranging in price from under $100 on up. You can get a catalog for $5 if you're interested—the patriotic one is fun just to browse through on its own merits.

•**The New Science Centre** (John H. Davidson, Bright Haven, Robin's Lane, Lolworth, Cambridge, CB3 8HH, ENGLAND) maintains a list of individuals and groups involved in free energy, scalar electromagnetic wave, ether and similar fields of research. A few IRCs might land you a copy.

•"**News of the Weird**" is the syndicated newspaper column by Chuck Shepherd, who used to distribute his clippingzine **VIEW FROM THE LEDGE** for free. Now, however, he can make the columns available, with hundreds of strange but true stories from all over. You can get on the mailing list for $8 per year, and I'd recommend you do so, by sending a check to Chuck at PO Box 57141, Washington, DC 20037.

•**Octoberwind Grafx** (Tim Renner, PO Box 831, Reistertown, MD 21136) has a small catalog of t-shirts and stickers, mostly with a horror theme, available for $1.

•**The Organization for Equal Education of the Sexes** (OEES, 808 Union St., Brooklyn, NY 11215) offers 91 posters with "dynamic, positive images of women", from modern carpenters to famous historical figures. You can get their current catalog for $2.

•**The Overlords of Rapaxcia** (PO Box 3648, Corpus Christi, TX 78463-3648) offer to send more information of their organization for mutants if you send an SASE.

•**The Paradise Project** (Christopher B. Martin, Route 1 Box 373, Charlottesville, VA 22901-9605) is trying to get people organized to achieve ten goals, from everyone having enough to eat to "Transcendence for the planet as a whole", by the year 2000. Send an SASE for more details.

•**Plaster Cramp Press** (PO Box 1083, Wheaton, IL 60189) will send you their catalog of unusual literature plus single-page "Destroy All Universities" and Art Strike posters for an SASE.

•**Port Centauri** is an attempt to build a sort of New Age community in the Pueblo, Colorado area. For more information write to Communities of Light, PO Box 11919, Pueblo, CO 81001-1919.

•**The Prometheus Society** (PO Box 45126, Tacoma, WA 98445) is a nascent prison outreach group for incarcerated Wiccans, Pagans, and Occultists.

•Bartlett Ridge (PO Box 1562, Albany, NY 12201) is guest-editing next year's edition of **PSYCHEDELIC MONOGRAPHS AND ESSAYS** and is most interested in hearing from people who would like to contribute psychedelic art to this journal.

•**Tom Ratkov** (PO Box 303, Roseville, MI 48066) continues to send me pages of typed manuscripts describing his experiences with mind control. I don't know how you can get them, and I'm not all that excited by the thought of trying to find out. For the hardcore kooks fan only.

•**READ ME** (1118 Hoyt Ave., Everett, WA 98201) has announced the Joseph Callahan Suspense Story Contest, with a prize of $100 for the best suspense story under 2000 words. For more details, send an SASE.

•**Real Goods** (966 Mazzoni St., Ukiah, CA 95482) sells all manner of energy-independence items, from solar panels to NiCad cells, with a hefty selection of toys, appliances, heaters, inverters, you name it. You can get their huge 300+ page sourcebook for $10 or subscribe to the Sourcebook and catalogs for $20.

•**Redwing Blackbird Distribution** (PO Box 2042, Decatur, GA 30031-2042) sent their latest catalog of anarchist and other strange periodicals and books available by mail;. You can get a copy for $1 in cash or stamps.

•**Refuse & Resist!** is a broad-based coalition fighting the government and its cronies on many levels, from census resistance to I-9 resistance to beating Operation Rescue. For $25 you can subscribe to their newsletter COUNTERATTACK and become a card-carrying "Resister" (You can also become a card-carrying "Troublemaker", "Rabble Rouser", "Outside Agitator" or "Unindicted Co-conspirator" for $35, $50, $75 or $100 respectively). And for $1.25 you can get their "Illegal" button and proclaim your resistance to the I-9 and detention of illegal immigrants in concentration camps.

•**RFD's "The Dear Love of Comrades" Calendar for 1990** ($10 from PO Box 68, Liberty, TN 37095) comes of course from RFD, a gay men's country journal. It's centered on the lunar cycle, with each spread being a new to new moon cycle rather than an arbitrary human month, and features photos from some of the better-known gay male photographers, mostly non-explicit. They also give birthdays for people who are often ignored by regular calendars.

•**Rhett's Wrestling Wear** (3821 E. Haddock Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89115) will sell anyone a wrestling costume, whether one of their own design or a copy of that worn by their favorite ring figure. $5.95 will get you a catalog and pricelist.

•**Rocket Graphics** (Jim Pack, PO Box 233, Loveland, OH 45140) suffered a major loss of records due to a computer crash. If you subscribed to THE COMICIST after 2/12/90 and didn't get anything back, please get in touch with them ASAP.

•**Rubber Stamps of America** (PO Box 567-C, Saxtons River, VT 05154) will make custom rubber stamps from your camera-ready artwork for prices starting around $15. They'll also send you a free catalog if you ask them to.

•**The Sacramento Club of Simonists** (Sid Steward, PO Box 188883, Sacramento, CA 95818) will sell you a one-page list of popular sins for $1, or their own 50-day remission of punishment Indulgence certificates for $2.

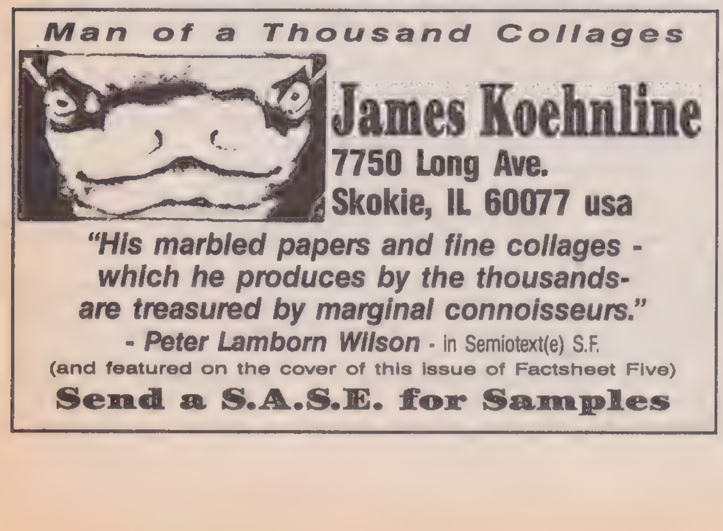
•**Salamander** (5 Spring St., New Brunswick, NJ 08901) is a new "eclectic metaphysical bookshop". Proprietor Conny Jasper invites wholesalers of books and merchandise to contact her with terms and catalogs.

•**Script City** (8033 Sunset Blvd. #1500, Hollywood, CA 90046) sells copies of movie scripts—as well as MGM mugs, Thirtysomething t-shirts, software for screenwriters, books about movie making, and other cinema-related items. They sent me their catalog #190, with a cover price of $2.

•**See Hear** (59 E. 7th St., New York, NY 10003) has their 14th mail order catalog of music zines and related goodies out now. Send $1 for a copy.

•**The Slop Swap** is being run by Mike Thain (621 Bassett Rd., Bay Village, OH 44140): "Anyone who sends any number of stickers, pins, photos, cards or plastic small toys gets an equivalent amount in return."

•**Socialist Party Favors** is the somewhat cute name for a catalog of buttons, bumper stickers, books and other goodies for socialist organizers available from Socialist Party, PO Box 924, Iowa City, IA 52244.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- Peter Lamborn Wilson - in Semiotext(e) S.F.
(and featured on the cover of this issue of Factsheet Five)

Send a S.A.S.E. for Samples

•**Rocky & Catherine Stone** (PO Box 7772, Santa Cruz, CA 95061) have available a bunch of stickers with anarchist, Earth First, and other revolutionary images. They range in price from 25¢ to $1, and they ask that all mail be sent certified since they've been having problems with delivery.

•**Stop The Killing!** is a one-page poster of vegetarian propaganda and doggerel. You can get a copy by sending an SASE to Clear Words, 49 Cumberland, San Francisco, CA 94110.

•More **Tischworks** postcards are available from Susan Dorne's Unicorn Productions (551 Park Ave., Windsor, CT 06095). These range from silliness like the "Mouse to mouse resuscitation card to drawings of people and barbarians. 4 for $1, 8 designs in all.

•**Travel View 1** (Linda Yurkoski, TV1, PO Box 866, Penticton, BC V2A 7G1, CANADA) is a pen-pal club that wants to become the largest in the world, and is looking for agents in other countries. For an application to join the club or more information on becoming an agent, send an SASE if you're in Canada, 50¢ worth of mint stamps if you're in the US, or 1 IRC from elsewhere.

•**Kris Verreth** (Tervuursestwg 1H, 3081 Perk, BELGIUM) maintains a computer printout of an international tape traders' list. About 12 pages of addresses and wants, $1 postpaid anywhere in the world.

•**Wauism** is a computer-aided, streamlined religion for the 90's. For more information try sending an SASE to D.A. LeTang, 115-15th St. W #3, Minneapolis, MN 55403.

•**The Wittenberg Center For Alternative Resources** (188 Wittenberg Rd., Bearsville, NY 12409) is a retreat and program center down by Woodstock which hosts a great many courses and seminars and events. You can probably get their current calendar for the asking.

★★★★★

FACTSHEET FIVE PROJECTS

•A couple of things which used to be FF projects are now being handled by other people. The Gemstone File, that medley of modern conspiracy theory running over 100 pages, is available for $12.50 from Ron Bonds, 419 S. Columbia Dr., Decatur, GA 30030. Ron will give you 5¢ per page credit for new conspiracy material you send him in trade. And Martti Koski's pamphlet **MY LIFE DEPENDS ON YOU**, telling of his own experiences with mind control at the hands of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, may be ordered for $1 from Scott Tinch, 453 Robertsville Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

•A short list of fanzine and other resources for prisoners is available to any prisoner for the asking. Just drop me a line requesting a copy.

•I now have available for other publishers a list of distributors and stores who would like to see new zines for possible sale. This includes all the folks who sell FF, whether directly or to stores, and with as many details as possible on what they want and what their terms are as I know. Send me an SASE (be sure to tell me what it's for!) and I'll send you a copy.

•The collected **WHY PUBLISH?** book, including most of the words published on this subject in the first 30 issues of FF, as well as new material from Miekal And, Joel Biroco, Stewart Brand and Merritt Clifton, is now available for only $3.50 postpaid. Don't miss this; there were only 500 printed and I probably won't do any more.

•The collected book of Anni Ackner's columns is out at last!. The collection is called **NOBODY LOVES A VISUAL ARTS CRITIC**, and it features all of her writings from FF, as well as four new columns (unavailable elsewhere), an introduction by Elayne Wechsler and graphics by Freddie Baer. 134 pages long, you can get a copy book rate for $4, or first class for $5.50. 75% of the profits are going to Anni, so I'd really like to sell a lot of these. Think what they'll be worth in twenty years when she's a wealthy mainstream author.

•**FACTSHEET FIVE** T-Shirts, designed by Freddie Baer, are now available for a measley $8.50 postpaid. The only color available is yellow, but it's a yellow that will knock your eyes back into your skull, not some wimpy pastel color. Well, actually, the second edition is a bit wimpier (so you early buyers, you have a collectors' item!), but still beautiful. Specify size or we'll send you whatever we feel like. Think of the possibilities for starting a conversation!

•I now have a new set of **FACTSHEET FIVE** ads available, also typeset and put together by Freddie Baer. In the future I may swap or pay for some of these to be published, but meanwhile if you want to give me a free plug write and I'll send you a copy.

•I am still offering the **FACTSHEET FIVE** mailing list on self-adhesive labels. This issue's list of around 4200 names is available for $150. If you prefer, you can get the list on plain paper for $115. I can also provide specialty lists (all fanzines, all distributors, all music zines, all artists, or most anything else you can come up with) for 5¢ a name on labels or 3¢ a name on paper. If the specialty list is not one that I can easily sort, an additional hourly research fee will apply.

•I am also prepared to offer the mailing list on IBM-PC compatible DSDD diskettes. The mailing list is archived on one diskette and I'll include the shareware DBMS I use (PC-FILE+) on three more diskettes. *You must have a hard disk to access the FF mailing list!* If you are interested in getting the actual text of the zine on diskette, please contact me to discuss appropriate hardware and software, or check the FF BBS. You can get the mailing list set for $18.

•From time to time the **FACTSHEET FIVE** mailing list is sold to various folks who want to send out fliers, catalogs, or who knows what else. Most of my readers seem to appreciate this. However, there may be those of you who don't want to receive the Loompanics Catalog at your home. If you'd like to be taken off the mailing lists I sell, just send me a note and I'll take care of it at once.

•The **FF ZINE EXCHANGE** is still running, although there's a bit of a material shortage right now and it remains, as always, a low priorit compared to actually publishing the magazine. Zine Editors: If you're at all interested in having samples of your zine go to people who don't even know you exist, send as many as you want to me to distribute. The rest of you: Send me an SASE with 25¢ to $2.40 postage and I'll stuff it with whatever I have laying about ($2.40 is enough to mail a couple of pounds in the country, so use a decent-sized envelope [10x13 is a good size]: two pounds is about 8 issues of FF, OK?). You should also take a look at a rate chart; while $2.40 will cover postage on two pounds, $2.30 is only enough for eleven ounces. I'd recommend springing for the full two pounds. You might also take note of six similar offers:

Gene Guthrie's (6221 Acton Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46259) offer to send local freebies to anyone who sends him postage;

The "Small Press Food Shelf" is run by the **POETRY HARBOR** folks in Duluth (1619 Jefferson St., Duluth, MN 55812): they give stuff away in person and *not* by mail, so don't send for it, but they'd be delighted to have your excess literary output to distribute;

Dallas Swan's (PO Box 270, Horntown, VA 23395) offer to fill up large SASEs with as many zines as they will hold;

Jim Testa's (151 First Ave., Box A., New York, NY 10003) Demo Xchange of band demo tapes, also available for a few dollars postage;

R. Wherever's (11 Bayberry Ln., Cohasset, MA 02025) offer to fill up large SASEs with as many zines as they will hold.

and Rosemary West's (PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346) offer of personalized computer-generated poetry for 50¢ an ounce, up to five pounds—send your name and the names of a few friends to assure personalization.

Anyhow, remember, send a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE to minimize the work I have to do. I mean it. The next person who sends a blank envelope and a check, instead of buying the stamps himself and pasting them on, is going to get something nasty in the mail. If he gets anything at all. OK, OK, I'll make an exception for those of you in foreign countries: just send me a check or cash and a self-addressed envelope and I'll do the rest. Those out of the country can supply up to $4.50 worth of postage, since the rates are higher. Those in the country should stop using such obviously glued stamps or I'm going to start pitching your envelopes in the trash. *This has already happened to some people stupid enough to ignore what I've said! Use mint stamps only!!* (Look, it's OK to glue down un-used stamps; what I'm upset about it people putting the glue over the top of them so they can be re-used. If this doesn't make sense to you, call me). And please be patient; Zine Exchange envelopes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The backlog of orders waiting to be filled has been reduced considerably in the last few months, but there's still something like a 2-month line ahead of you.

A few clarifications about the Zine Exchange: No, I am not going to send you any back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE**. No, you may not request a specific zine you saw reviewed here; that copy is in the archives, and that's where it's staying. You can request a specific type of zine, but often I cannot fill requests; it depends on what's been sent to me recently for distribution.

•I put together an index to each issue, usually about a 24-page pamphlet. If you want to see a copy, send me $1.50. To get it every issue, you should sign up for a library rate subscription.

•**HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE** is, alas, out of print. If you don't have a copy, you'll have to wait for the next edition, scheduled for early 1991.

Addresses for FF Columnists:
Anni Ackner, PO Box 18, Reading, PA 19603
Garry De Young, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252
Joe Lane, PO Box 4083, Terre Haute, IN 47804-4083
Belka Stamas, 1218 S. 11th St, Philadelphia, PA 19147
Kerry Thornley, PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307

GETTING ZINES

Just a few hints to consider when you're writing away for fanzines:

•If I list a name in the address for a zine, you ought to make checks or money orders out to that name rather than the zine name. If a zine has odd payment requirements, I try to note this in the address section of the listing. In general, cash is preferable to money orders which are preferable to checks.

•On a related topic, when I put a question mark after the price it means that I'm guessing because the zine editors didn't list a price.

•I list single copy rates whenever I can find them, otherwise I try to indicate how many issues your subscription covers. If I put something like "$10/yr" it means I can't tell how many issues come out in a year.

•If I separate issue numbers with a dash, they're single issues; a slash indicates two-in-one issues. So, for example, "#7-11/12" indicates that I received #7, a double issue containing #11 and #12, and everything in between. Prices given are for one issue, not for a set of all the issues reviewed, unless otherwise indicated.

•On zines with a price under $1, it really helps to include a few stamps for postage. "SASE" means self-addressed stamped envelope: #10 with 25¢ postage unless otherwise specified.

•Don't send loose coins in an envelope. If you want to send coins, tape them to an index card and wrap a piece of paper around that. And remember that there's a postal surcharge on envelopes more than 1/4 inch thick.

•Canadians and some Britishers generally don't mind receiving U.S. funds in cash. For Canada it is generally safe to send US$1 for each C$1 in price; the exchange rate is high enough to cover postage. For Great Britain, US$2 for each £1 asking price similarly allows for postage even after covering the exchange. For other countries you should think about alternative payment. Foreign currency is available at larger banks, and IRCs (International Reply Coupons, which can be exchanged for stamps almost anywhere in the world) at your post office. Foreign MOs are also available from the post office, but can take forever to get. Sending checks to other countries is not a good idea; bank exchange charges can be outrageous.

•"Age Statement" means that you should send along a signed note saying that you're over 18 (or over 21, if you are) to help the publisher avoid legal hassles associated with distributing sexually-explicit material.

•"The Usual" refers to the traditional method of obtaining SF fanzines without sullying oneself with cash. Generally this includes trading other zines, writing locs, contributing articles or art, or being recipient of a whim. These days $1 is often accepted as the equivalent to these more active approaches.

•I'd appreciate it if you'd mention **FACTSHEET FIVE** when ordering zines you saw reviewed here. It helps us all in the long run, as the more credibility I build up the more fine zines I'll be able to bring to your attention.

•If you have any problems with a zine please let me know. I'll be happy to contact publishers in cases of non-receipt. 99% of the time it's just a case of things being lost in the mail. If you are writing to complain, it is imperative to include all the details: what you ordered, when, what form of payment and how much you sent, as well as what you've done to follow up yourself.

•If you have time, any zine publisher enjoys hearing comments on the zine he has sent you. This is especially true if you didn't like it; we all like to improve. Even a simple note of thanks can make a publisher's day, though.

•Many zine publishers print small quantities, so you may not be able to get the exact issue that I reviewed. If you must have that particular issue, say so, and be prepared to pay extra. Otherwise it's best just to request the most recent or the next issue and save trouble for everyone. And be patient; if the current issue is all gone, it may take a while.

•And since it may take a while, the envelope your order came in may get lost. Make sure your address is on the letter itself! Otherwise you may not get your copy despite the best intentions of the publisher.

•Most zine publishers are willing to exchange their zines for others, so I generally don't mention this in listings unless I know they *don't* swap. But use some discretion—a 150-page typeset music publication is unlikely to swap with a 4-page xeroxed newsletter on Central American farming. And remember, publishers are under no obligation to respond to unsolicited zines, so if you can't afford to give away the copy, don't send it.

•When an advertiser or publication indicates a price of, for example, $_{o}2^{oo}$ or $_{o}5^{oo}$, you should send that many Federal Reserve Notes ("dollar bills") in cash. Many people would say $2 or $5, but there are those who draw a strong distinction between authentic dollars and the evidence of the US debt issued by the Federal Reserve.

★★★★★

NOTED BUT NOT SEEN

Sometimes I get publicity for zines without getting copies of the zines themselves. Here's the news on a few items that I haven't read for myself:

CONSTRUCTIVE ACTION NEWSLETTER ($5/12 issues from Shirley Bughard, 710 Lodi St., B 504 Ross Towers, Syracuse, NY 13203) is a thirty year old newsletter of mental patients liberation.

MUSIC MART ($12/13 issues from 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990) is a new fully-indexed music collectors' zine, to make it easier to buy, sell, and trade records.

FRATERNITE (Piotr J.K. Tyminski, Al. Rewolucji Pazdzier nikowej 97/19, 01-424 Warszawa, POLAND) is a Polish anarchist zine that has available a list of the Polish anarchist press. Send a buck or two for a copy.

VOKNO (Bolzanovva 7, Praha 1, CZECHOSLOVAKIA) is a Czechoslovak cultural periodical, now being published for the first time openly after 10 years underground, during which its leading editors were in prison. Now they're anxious to start receiving western publications.

THOSE FUNNY NUMBERS

What the little stuff in parentheses after each zine review do is tell you how big the zine is. First comes a letter for the size of the paper, or at least close to it:

A3	A3 size, about 11 1/2 by 16 1/4
A4	A4 size, about 8 1/4 by 11 1/2
A5	A5 size, about 5 3/4 by 8 1/4
D	Digest, 5 1/2 by 8 1/2
HL	Half Legal, 7 by 8 1/2 or 4 1/4 by 14
HS	Half Standard, 4 1/4 by 11
L	Legal, 8 1/2 by 14
M	Mini, 4 1/4 by 5 1/2
MM	Micro, smaller than mini
O	Oversized, larger than tabloid or odd-sized
Q	Quarto, 8 by 10
S	Standard, 8 1/2 by 11
T	Tabloid, usually 11 by 17 on newsprint

Next comes a number, which is the number of pages. Last there may be a suffix: "t" for typeset or laser-printed, or "r" for photo-reduced type.

ADVERTISING

FACTSHEET FIVE advertising space is available as follows:

Full Page	7 1/2 by 9 3/4
Half Page	7 1/2 by 4 3/4
Half Page	3 3/4 by 9 3/4
Quarter Page	3 3/4 by 4 3/4
Eighth Page	3 3/4 by 2 1/4
Twelfth Page	2 1/4 by 2

Copy should be submitted as camera-ready, in the size it is to run. For sizes not on the list, please call me. *Please note: a standard business card is an eighth-page ad.* Current rates are as follows:

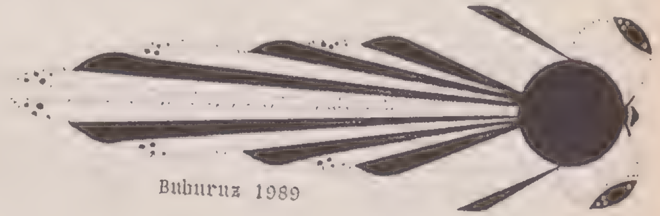
Back Cover with Second Color	$190.00
Full Page with Second Color	$170.00
Full Page	$145.00
Half Page	$80.00
Quarter Page	$50.00
Eighth Page	$25.00
Twelfth Page	$12.50

Ads which are paid in advance for two or more insertions may take a 20% discount from the above prices—and are protected from price rises during the life of the ad. This discount does not apply to twelfth page ads. This discount also does not apply to ads with a second color.

Ad space needing a second color, either back cover or interior, should be reserved with me before sending in copy, as this space is obviously limited. Other ads need not reserve space in advance, though you're welcome to do so. Generally, I do not trade advertising with other publishers, though I make *rare* exceptions for those with a large circulation in areas that I don't ordinarily reach.

Classified ads are now available for 25¢ per word, minimum 20 words, maximum 500 words.

Next ad deadline is July 20, 1990.



Buburuz 1989

IT'S HERE!

THE SAVAGE EYE CATALOG!

Includes such items as scumrock posters, political pamphlets, Betty Page, freaks, postcards, Coney Island memorabilia, Kaz girls, Elvis, Bob, buttons, foul-mouthed talking dolls, old-time nudie playing cards, weird mystical ornaments, video tapes and much more! An amplitude of items not found anywhere else. Everything you need to enhance your low-brow life-style. Why the catalog itself is a transplendid item. And everything is at way-low prices. So order today!

JUST SEND $1 TO: RAYOZINE STUDIOS
P.O. Box 291, Cooper Station
New York, NY 10276

Includes . . .

Betty & Me. . . Short storybook chock full of Betty photos of every strip. Including some surprising uncensored shots. Oh . . . and sign you're 18 or over.

CATALOG #1019 . . . $2.50 P.P.

Xerographic Warfare. . . Limited hand-made volume contains 25 scumrock posters plastered around N.Y.C. Wild bands, outrageous posters.

CATALOG #1010. . . . . . $5 P.P.

Avenue D Comics . . . Glenn Head's swarthy account of life on the Lower East Side of N.Y.C. in the early '80's. Whores, junkies, madmen, two-bit pistoleros, inhuman landlords; all the usual suspects are skewered on the tip of Glenn's desperate nib.

CATALOG #1035 . . $2.75 P.P.

FREE CATALOG WITH ANY ORDER FROM THIS AD!

Æditorial

Another medley of topics this issue...

Sharp-eyed readers may have noted that **FACTSHEET FIVE** was nominated in the May/June **UTNE READER** for one of their "Alternative Press Awards"—the same awards which I had some strongly negative things to say about last year. No, they didn't buy me off and I haven't changed my mind about the appropriateness of these awards; I was not given a chance to decline the nomination before it appeared in print. As soon as I found out about this nomination, I asked them to remove my name from their list. Talking to the **UTNE** folks, they seem to feel that they should not remove my name from consideration simply because I don't want it there; I can understand this attitude since they really do want to pick the best, but that doesn't mean I have to like it.

Ordinarily I don't bother you readers with all the annoying details of running a business, but I wanted to pass along one. I was recently informed by Travelers Insurance that they were canceling my Workers Compensation and Employers Liability Policy because "Contents of Magazine are Questionable". With this, they join a select group of censor wannabes which had previously been limited to the administrations of the more regressive prisons around the country. Needless to say, I'll be making sure that Travelers doesn't get any of my personal business in the future, and if others wanted to take this attitude into account when considering their own insurance needs, I certainly wouldn't object.

People still seem to get confused by the **FF** mailing schedule. Once again: the zine goes in the mail around the tenth of the month of the cover date (this one was probably a bit earlier--mailed on June 4th if all went well) and takes up to four weeks to be delivered. So don't call me on June 15th to complain that your bulk mail copy of the June **FF** didn't arrive, even though your favorite bookstore (which gets its copies shipped UPS) had it a week ago. Either wait patiently or pay for first class mail.

The Small Press Support Foundation is still struggling to get off the ground. If there's anyone who can give us free legal assistance or information about getting incorporated as a nonprofit corporation in New York State, we could sure use it. You can either give me a call or get directly in touch with Dave Mandl, 195 Garfield Pl. #2L, Brooklyn, NY 11215. Thanks.

As **FACTSHEET FIVE** grows, I'm constantly trying to steer a path between bankruptcy and dropping dead of overwork. It's not been an easy task. It appears to me that within the next year, I won't be able to handle things alone with even the minimal competence that I exhibit now. Since I can't clone myself, I am starting to seriously look for a partner to take on a major part of the work, turning **FF** from a one-man show into a collective project. I'm not in any special hurry right at the moment, but if you think you might be the one, drop me a line or give me a call. I don't yet know precisely who I'm looking for, but the list of qualities probably includes: a love of the small press, the ability to write coherent and entertaining English (those who think I fall short of this goal myself are invited to keep quiet), not being frightened of hard work, computer skills on IBM or (maybe) Mac PCs, a tolerance for many things including loud music, diverse opinions, and my own quirks, and the ability to relocate (first to Rensselaer and then, in a few years, most likely somewhere else). The pay will be far less than fabulous, and you'll be in the public eye and thus dumped on. Anyone out there?

Another noble experiment, that of letting publishers pick their own subject headings, has been discontinued this issue—not enough publishers were participating for the plan to make sense. I'll probably split a couple more sections off the zines soon, in the interest of making **FF** a more useful tool.

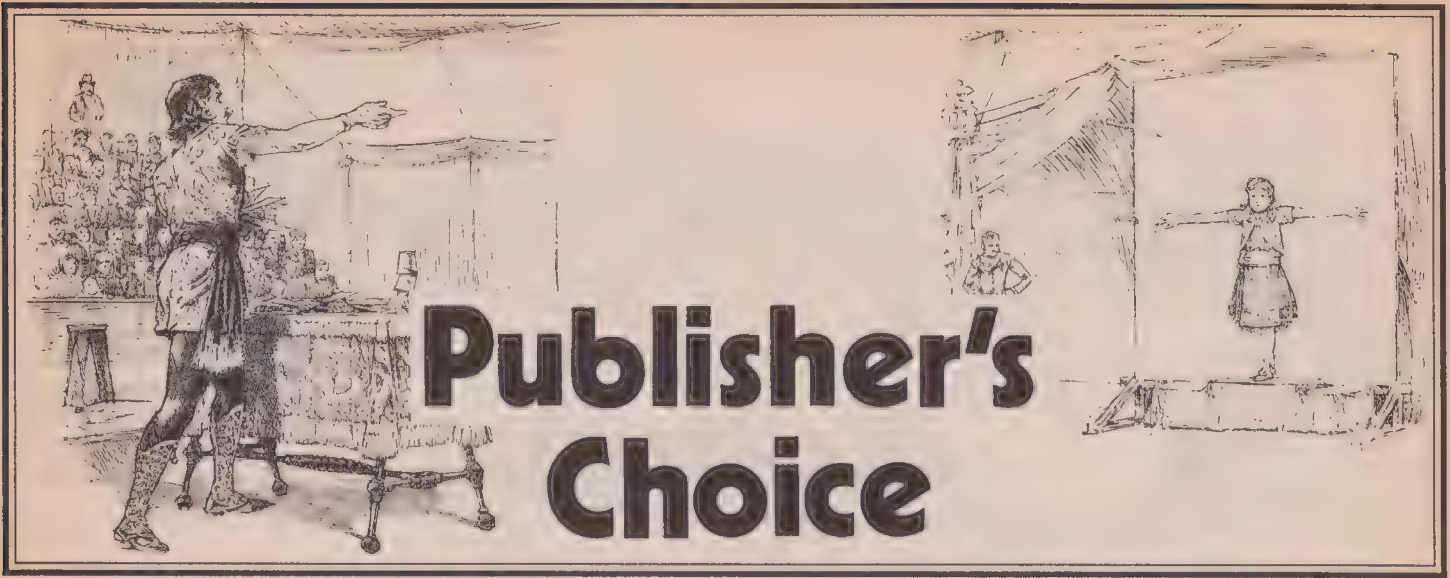
Classified ads are now available in **FF**, for those of you who'd like to say a bit more about your zines (or about anything else, for that matter. See the end of the **NEWS** section for details.

From time to time people ask me how widely **FACTSHEET FIVE** is distributed. Well, besides all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the US Virgin Islands, this issue is going to: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Holland, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Northern Ireland, Norway, New Zealand, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Scotland, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, USSR, Venezuela, West Germany, and Yugoslavia—38 countries on 6 continents. I'd like to expand this even further, of course. If anyone arranges for a paid subscription of 3 or more issues from anywhere in Antarctica, I'll add twice that many issues to their own subscription. If you'd like to send a copy to anyone in a country not on this list, and don't mind waiting until the next issue comes out to have it mailed (cheaper for me that way), I'll send it for $2 instead of the usual $3. How's that for a deal? (Yes, you can get your next copy of **FF** cheaper if you first move to Tibet. See how generous I am?)

As of this issue, I am able to take MasterCard and Visa for purchases over $10. If you've been putting off subscribing because finding a stamp and an envelope is just too much bother, give me a call at 518-479-3707 and have your card number handy. You can also subscribe via MasterCard or Visa via the FF computer BBS.

Some publishers have developed the habit of cumulating all their zines and then sending me one fat package which gets here the day before my deadline. Well, you can keep doing this if you want, but if there's any better way to get rushed, unconsidered reviews based on quick skimming, I can't think of what it is.

How many of you publishers, musicians, writers, artists and just plain readers out there are accessible by electronic mail? With the coming of the Internet, almost all of the large networks are linked together. I'd like to start compiling a directory of zine people who can be contacted this way, to act as a resource network for people with questions, and as a way to let the major media know we're out here. If you have an e-mail address, please send it to me at either ffmike@well.sf.ca.us or 72271.275@compuserve.com and let me know whether I can include it in the directory. Thanks.



Publisher's Choice

As usual, these are not intended to represent some Platonic ideal of zinedom; they're zines that I really liked the last couple of months because they did a good job of what they do.

★★★★★

AGOG #2 ($1 & 2 stamps [with b&w cover] or $3 & 2 stamps [with full color cover] from Scott Gray, 372 5th Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215): I don't even like basketball, and I've never been in a Catholic girls' high school in my life, so why did I just set down and read all the way through Stephanie Grant's short story "Posting Up", about being on the basketball team in a Catholic girls' high chool? Because it's a damned good story, that's why, easily one of the two or three best mainstream stories I've read this year. Also in this issue is a fine comic from Gina Guy exploring the problems of having an androgynous build and some short poetry from Dondi DeMarco, Laura Box, and the editor. I don't know where Scott finds these people, as I don't recall running across any of them before, but I'm looking forward to more. They're also a connection for Ecuadoran folk art paintings, available for sale or barter—one is pictured on the back cover here. (D-40t)

★★★★★

CAVEAT EMPTOR #21 ($4 from PO Box 4533, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4533): A fine journal of UFO and related news which avoids both simple sensationalism and simple skepticism. This issue is notable for the best summary of the MJ-12 documents and the controversy surrounding them that I've yet seen, written by Curt Sutherly. There's also an extensive interview with "Mr. Ed" Walters, a look at the East Coast sightings of bigfoot by Mark Opsasnick, and a rather skeptical view of the abductions recalled by many people under hypnosis. The zine also reviews books, prints news bits (someone has confessed to hoaxing the public with the Russian UFO reports) and an argumentative letters column. (S-36t)

GOING GAGA
ARTINFORMATIONOISE

Here's what people are saying:
"...very...out...touch...material..." -Allan Clark *The Single Eye*
"...visible...load...ideas...boasts..." -Lloyd Dunn *Photostatic*
"...future...attitude...revolution..." -Mike Gunderloy *FF*
"...be more...know...continue..." -Don Baker *Eulipian*
"...brain-pan...steel wool..." -Glenn Grant *Edge Detector*

Fill in the blanks.

Send 2.00 for a sample issue to:
Gareth Branwyn, 2630 Robert Walker Pl., Arlington, VA 22207

★★★★★

CRY FOR DAWN #1 ($2.25 from 21 Jasper St., Valley Stream, NY 11580): I'm half reluctant to put this here, because it is so disturbing. But I suppose that's much of the point in a comic for gorehounds. There's plenty of blood and scares here, including one page (involving a razor blade and a hammer) which I can't bring myself to re-read. But there's also, thanks to co-creators Joe Linsner and Joe Monks, fine art, tight plotting, and even a sense of conscience—one of the grodiest strips here has a strong pro-choice message. The art is lovely, including the somewhat gratuitous lingerie-dressed gal who stands around as each story is being introduced. This one will probably do well, and it deserves to. (S-32)

★★★★★

FREE INQUIRY Vol. 10 #2 ($5 from PO Box 5, Buffalo, NY 14215): A large and multi-faceted magazine of humanism, the belief that science and understanding rather than faith are our best guides to the world. They take a very intellectual approach relying on analyses rather than simply laughing at believers. In this issue, we have a selection of works on the drug war and what's wrong with it, a skeptical look at the idea of the Papacy, and a section led off by "An African-American Humanist Declaration". There's a reders' forum discussing altruism, commentary on the "Affirmations of Humanism" (reprinted on the back cover) and lots more. (S-64t)

★★★★★

GAMUT #29 ($12/3 issues from Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH 44115): This "Journal of Ideas and Information" makes my list simply because of the wonderful article on the Eiffel Tower by Sara Ruth Watson, which absorbed me completely despite my impending deadline. But that's only one of the fun topics, each written with care but not overloaded by jargon or too many footnotes. In a lighter vein of construction, Claude Clayton Smith visits the factory where they make NFL footballs. There's an article on the latest ways of dealing with brain tumors, a look at police stress, a discussion of Swahili, a travelogue from Tahiti. Fun to read for anyone who wants to know more about the world. (S-96t)

★★★★★

GOING GAGA #6 ($2 from Gareth Branwyn, 2630 Robert Walker Pl., Arlington, VA 22207): Gareth is one of the pioneers in linking the zine scene to the electronic networks, running back and forth between we print fogies and the electronic punks over on the Well. In this issue of his zine he gets into the idea of pocket universes, taking a series of snapshot looks at cyberpunk, virtual realities, computer networks, the coming technological revolutions, and more. It's all put together in an arty format with plenty of drawings (great Joe E cover on this issue), a mini-pamphlet from Don Baker of **EULIPIAN**, and other good stuff. A cross-media connectional facility for the neophile. (HL-36t)

THE 11TH ST RUSE Vol. 3 #4 ($1-$2/4 issues from 322 E. 11th St. #23, New York, NY 10003: A small literary zine which features a variety of real and fantastic essays. The problem lies in deciding which is which. What can we make of the Bhutan travelogue or the recounting of a voyage within to visit a Wise Woman? Which if either is real and what is real anyways? They also print short poetry and a vocabulary corner. (S-4)

23 SKIDOO #1 ($2 & a stamp from Steve Stwalley, 141 Green Mt. Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245): A collection of comics, Discordian propaganda, and bits of culture from the last 40 years or so. This stuff plays with your mind, whether it;s the secret of the Land o' Lakes lady or the revelation of the identity of the Illuminatus Primus or the self-referential comics. Quite enjoyable. (D-32)

2AM #15 ($19/4 issues from PO Box 6754, Rockford, IL 61125-1754): A fine magazine of horror, in the form of short stories with the occasional bit of chilling verse. There are all sorts of gems in this issue, but R.J. Arden's vampire story "Soft Sell" was the one that I liked the best—there's still new (un)life in an old premise. Steve Rasnic Tem and James A. Lee also contribute superior work, and there are several columns of review and opinion. (S-64t)

□8 1/2 x 11 #1 (One stamp from Alex, 5 Greenview Ave., Princeton, NJ 08540): A zine of bits and pieces, little graffiti from a strange bathroom wall. Some music news, some statistics, "Mineral Rights", "Do What You Want to Do". Alex encourages people to send small bits for the next issue. (S-1)

ABC/xyz #18 ($1.25 from Mark Strickert, 3852 N. Oconto, Chicago, IL 60634): Formerly **TROUT TIMES**—the name was changed to indicate the range of material covered,. This issue includes a list of toll-free phone numbers for state tourism info, a dream of Jean-Paul Sartre's, some poetry, a Martian short story, and other material from off the beaten path. (D-16r)

THE ACE April 1990 ($18/yr from PO Box 11201, Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-0201): A monthly journal for folks interested in underground, pirate and clandestine radio. They print notes on what's been heard lately, and track the legal news as well. April reported on a couple of FCC busts and had some advice on what to do if they show up at your door looking for a transmitter some dark and stormy night. (D-32r)

ACROSS THE LINES Vol. 2 #1 (Donation from Seeds of Peace, 2440 16th St. Box 241, San Francisco, CA 94103): Seeds of Peace is a group which provides logistical support for various actions in defense of people and planet: the Wall Street Earth Day demo, the American Peace Test, attempts to save old growth redwoods, and the Oak Ridge actions, to name a few. Obviously this takes dedication and money, and they can use a few bucks. Their newsletter discusses past actions and how to get involved in future ones. (S-8t)

A.C.T. #3 ("Pay What You Want" from 276 Sandowne Dr., Waterloo, ONT, N2K 2C2, CANADA): Art and texts from the growing culture of resistance. They print a Surrealist tract on zoos, some information on a blockade of the South African embassy, detourned comics, SubGenial rants, and more. The zine is run on an all-donation basis, as yet another blow against capitalism. (S-42)

THE ACTIVIST #26 ($5/4 issues from DSA Youth Section, 15 Dutch St. #500, New York, NY 10038): The quarterly journal of the Youth Section of the Democratic Socialists of America. Mostly it's "think" pieces, with ideas on restructuring the education system, reproductive rights, and more. There's also lost of movement organizing news and notes. (S-32t)

ADULT VIDEO NEWS April-May 1990 ($39.95/12 issues from 8600 West Chester Pike #300, Upper Darby, PA 19082): This one is mostly aimed at people in the adult video industry—notably retailers—but with its hundreds of reviews and ads it can serve as a "renter's guide" for most anyone. Besides the reviews they cover some industry news, and feature special sections for R-rated and gay videos as well as the more usual X stuff. (S-92t)

THE ADVOCATE Spring 1990 ($1 from the Peace Farm [checks to "the Franciscan Sisters"], HCR 2 Box 25, Panhandle, TX 79068): A newsletter from the folks who hang out across the road from the Pantex nuke warhead plant and face the trucks and bombs every day. This issue has an official DOE document on dealing with Civil Disobedience (with the sections apparently saying things like "shoot them") censored out), and some news on Central America. (S-16t)

AFAN NEWSLETTER Vol. 8 #3 ($15/yr from 8306 Wilshire Blvd, #537, Beverly Hills, CA 90211): The acronym stands for Association For Astrological Networking, a group which is dedicated to seeing astrology treated as any other profession. They are very serious about this, helping members fight for their own First Amendment rights while simultaneously promoting a code of ethics for astrologers. And yes, they do print a lot of networking information as well. (S-12t)

AFRAID Vol. 1 #5-6 ($20/12 issues from 2170 S. Harbor Blvd. #270, Anaheim, CA 92802): A newsletter for those who write horror stories, aimed at the professional but with advice on breaking in as well. They cover books, zines, magazines, comics and movies, and do news of the business as well as reviews and heavily-opinionated columns. #6 pokes some parodic fun at the HWA and has a suggestion for revising the rules for the Stoker awards, supported in a guest editorial by Harlan Ellison. (S-20t)

AFTER HOURS #6 ($4 from William G. Raley, 21541 Oakbrook, Mission Viejo, CA 92692-3044): A selection of horror stories that are all set sometime after the sun sets, lending an overall theme to the zine. This time Sean Brodick's "Lord of the Creepies" builds to a nice pitch, while Bentley Little gets pretty close to gratuitous ick with "The Stairway". There's also letters, a reprinted Ray Bradbury story, and two self-indulgent pages of the editor's cat. (S-48t)

AGENDA March 1990 ($15/yr from 202 E. Washington #512, Ann Arbor, MI 48104): An alternative news tabloid for the Ann Arbor area. This issue focuses in on local elections (now over), plus the reasons behind the Panama invasion and as always includes an extensive local calendar. A catalog of left concerns. (T-12t)

ALASKA METAPHYSICAL NEWSLETTER Mar.-Apr. 1990 ($12/12 issues from PO Box 93006, Anchorage, AK 99509-3006): A New Age networking journal with lots of contacts in the Anchorage area. The March issue seems to be largely devoted to peace, with news of a rather alternative international conference and an opening essay on creating peace. (S-12t)

ALCHEMY DISPATCH #4 (SASE from Linc Kinnicutt, 1606 Hampton Ln., Safety Harbor, FL 34645): A collection of texts and graphics which owe something to mail art and something to the punk music field. There's a page on industrial music and culture, and a brief overview of chaotic patterns and the Mandelbrot set, written as popularization rather than math. A Chris Burden collage is also included. (D-12t)

ALL ABOUT BEER Vol. 11 #1-2 ($13/6 issues from 4764 Galicia Way, Oceanside, CA 92056): A slick and colorful magazine that is, in fact, all about beer—as well as peripheral things like pub signs. #1 has an article on Sapporo's new brewery and on several other brews from Asia. #2 will tell you about cask ale and introduce you to some Scottish breweries. Light-hearted but with plenty of serious pages on the tastes and techniques as well. (S-64t)

☐**THE ALMAGEST** #1 ($1 from Rick Harrison, PO Box 547014, Orlando, FL 32854): A new zine from Rick, who is already juggling several projects. This one handles the overflow of his personal life that doesn't fit elsewhere: a letter to his mother, news on the next edition of other zines, AM radio policies, a BASIC routine for password protection and reviews of mail-order catalogs are some of the contents here. (S-8)

ALTERNATIVE NETWORK LETTER Vol. 5 #3 ($4/3 issues from Equitable Tourism Options, 96, H Colony, Indiranagar Stage I, Bangalore 560 038, INDIA): A collection of news and views on tourism in the less-developed countries of the world, mostly concentrating on its negative aspects—staged events, corruption, crime and more. They do however come up with leads for those who wish to pursue more responsible tourism as well. (S-12t)

ALTERNATIVES Spring 1990 ($2/4 issues from Doyle Seward, 1657 W. Pratt #1-A, Chicago, IL 60626): A medley of features with tenuous connections. There's an introduction to the struggle over Native American spearfishing rights in Wisconsin, a historical look at Satanism, and a psychoanalytical look at bumper stickers in this issue. Ranges from serious to silly. (S-8)

☐**ALTERNATIVE TIMES** Vol. 1 #1-3 ($12/yr from PO Box 7134, Tyler, TX 75711-7134): A liberal community paper shouldn't be as big a deal as this one was in East Texas. Since they dared to say good things about the New Age in #1, they were met by considerable opposition, with Goodwill and the Salvation Army demanding their removal from a resource listing page. Nonetheless, they've forged ahead, writing of abortion rights, crystal hunting, the Reagan legacy, and more. (T-16)

THE AMALTHEAN HORN Vol. 4 #1 ($15/6 issues from PO Box 5511, Pasadena, CA 91117): A networking pagan zine for the Southern California area which is back after an extended absence. They include some notes on their events, a list of other zines, and short fiction. On the lighter side is a set of astrological light bulb jokes. (S-16t)

THE AMATEUR COMPUTERIST Vol. 3 #1 ($5/4 issues from R. Hauben, PO Box 4344, Dearborn, MI 48126): A short and basic zine about computers that comes from a shopfloor background—thus it is concerned with spreading the knowledge of programming widely. It deals mostly with history and sociology, with some programs for the CoCo or the IBM-PC. (S-12)

☐**AMERICAN ARTS QUARTERLY** Winter 1990 (On Request from Newington-Cropsey Foundation, PO Box 326, Hastings-On-The-Hudson, NY 10706): A reactionary art magazine which doesn't have much use for modernism, postmodernism, disgusting pornography masquerading as art or apparently any movement more recent than the mid-19th century. They're heavily into beauty, representational art, and preserving the culture that made America great. Slick, intellectual, and so far removed from the cutting edge as to be almost amusing. (D-36t)

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AMERICAN FORUM Vol. 7 #4/5/6-11 ($4.95/6 months from 971 Van Duzer St., Staten Island, NY 10304-1863):A mostly-weekly journal of opinion, swinging, and who knows what else. The double issue #8/9 contained some stuff on the far-out theories of Michael Baran, a sort of raw comic strip, and notes on accessing a swingers' BBS. They're running K.L. Robert's new strip about a terrorist captured after a mall bloodbath as a serial. (S-8)

THE AMERICAN GAY ATHEIST Vol. 8 #3-4 ($24/yr from PO Box 66711, Houston, TX 77266-6711): Aimed of course at those who challenge the herd in more than one respect, this one tends to be more atheist than gay although both views are represented. Apparently it is associated fairly closely with American Atheists, which may explain this. Fights for free choice across the board, from drugs to abortion. #4 has the tale of a rather difficult day spreading the non-word at Texas A&M. (S-14)

☐**AMERICAN IDEALISM RAG** #1-5 ($1.50 from PO Box 508, Old Chelsea Sta., New York, NY 10011): A litzine with a number of pretensions—starting with the signed and numbered covers—but the aplomb to pull most of them off well. They feature much socially-conscious poetry, city-dialect essays by Mike Tyler, and a clean and spacious layout. Gutsy and only a bit too puffed at times. (S-8t)

THE AMERICAN RATIONALIST May/June 1990 ($1 from PO Box 994, St. Louis, MO 63188): A variety of articles and reviews directed towards those who believe that religion is at best misguided and at worst sinister. This time around they look (unsuccessfully) for non-Biblical evidence that Jesus actually lived, argue for the right to die with dignity, and examine John 3:16 with a skeptical eye. (S-16t)

AMERICAN WINDOW CLEANER #21 ($6 from 27 Oak Creek Rd., El Sobrante, CA 94803): A magazine for the professional window cleaner. They cover such subjects as estimating the costs for a job, safely working on high rises, and ways to clean screens and blinds. They also feature lots of neat ads and actively promote a professional association for window cleaners. (S-24t)

AMERICA'S AT OUR DOORSTEP Vol. III #3 (On Request from Dennis W. Brezina,, PO Box 411, Churchton, MD 20733): When he's not hosting at his bed & breakfast, Dennis is hard at work on this newsletter. Some of it is about the trials and tribulations of putting people up in your house. But then there's the letters from the Kalihari, the poetry, the Bulwer-Lytton contest entries, and the cute little bird cartoons. I enjoy this as a refreshing break. (S-6)

AMERRIKUA! Vol. 8 #2 ($15/yr from PO Box 35, Schuyler Falls, NY 12985-0035): A Native American tabloid which also gets into peace and cultural preservation on a more worldwide basis—this issue, for example, examines some recent citizen contacts with the USSR. They also report on the return of some wampum belts to their tribes and various cultural events. (T-12t)

AMP #6 ($1/4 issues from 5525 Claremont #2, Oakland, CA 94618): An all-purpose cultural critique and fringe litmag. #6 includes some hints on how to write informative music reviews, a few paragraphs of Earth Day postmortem, and absurd quotes from public figures. (S-4)

ANARCHIST LABOR BULLETIN #18 ($1 from Incendiary Publications, PO Box 210095, San Francisco, CA 94121-0095): An anarchist journal of analysis of labor news—which differs from an analysis of anarchist labor news in that anarchists hardly ever have any significant impact on the labor movement. #18 has some letter-column argument over the worth of other groups including Earth First! and the AFL-CIO. (S-8t)

THE ANCIENT ARTS #8 ($13/4 issues from PO Box 3127, Morgantown, WV 26505): A spiral-bound pagan publication. They publish lots of traditional lore, with a few pages of such one-liners as "A hors with big ears has a good disposition". Other pages discuss ritual, traditional cooking in pagan communities, and finding land for a retreat in their area. (S-30)

THE ANIMALS' AGENDA April-June 1990 ($22/12 issues from PO Box 6809, Syracuse, NY 13217): This is the best overview I know of for following the animal rights movement, thanks to a slew of small news items as well as feature articles in each issue. The April issue looks at the evidence for thought in animals and features Merritt Clifton's ruminations on Earth Day. May has notes on the cruelties of most sheep ranching and a look at the recent nuisance suits filed against some animal activists. The June issue examines the wave of corporate advertising designed to convince people that animal rights people are all kooks. (S-60t)

☐**ANTI- #1** (*Trade Only* from Jason Spiro, PO Box 294, Delmar, NY 12054): Another entry on the marginals press scene, and about time we had one too. Jason puts together a mishmash of music reviews, poetry by Weinman and Catlin, Kerry Thornley on dead babies and Rev. Gobi on cool things to read, and more. Bob Black is prominently featured, as well as being responsible for the uncredited one-line kick in the teeth zine reviews. (D-36)

APA-CENTAURI #61 ($2.25 from Al Stern, 227 Taylor Rd., Paramus, NJ 07652): An apa which is a mix of artistic and literary works (several decent comics people contribute, and there's a round robin and some other fiction in this disty) plus mailing comments. They have a Constitution to squabble over, some members with overly-interesting lives and others with very private ones, and in general seem to be a pretty fun and talkative group. (S-188)

APAEROS #25-26 ($2 from John and Kathe Burt, 960 SW Jefferson Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333):A reader-written publication about sex and relationships. There are first-person accounts of sexual experiences, real and imaginary; some serialized fiction; serious discussion of various subjects; and of course some commentary on previous issues. Some folks also send in poetry or outrageous artwork. (D-32r)

☐**APA-FILK #46** ($1 or so from John Boardman, 234 E. 19th St., Brooklyn, NY 11226-5302): "Filk" is short for "filksong", which is the term SF fans use for writing new words to familiar tunes, often with an SF slant to them. This amateur press association is open to all interested in this art form, and reprints plenty of filks. People also engage in discussion of music in general and natter back and forth. (S-26)

☐**APA-NYU #180** (Contact Marc S. Glasser, PO Box 1252, Bowling Green Sta., New York, NY 10274): The amateur press association of NYUSFS (a SF group which used to meet at NYU until they got the boot) is still going strong, fifteen years or thereabouts after its founding. I've been a member off and on and generally found interesting conversation, loaded with jokes and irreverence, turning now to computers and again to recycling and over there to relationships. A variegated group of folks. (S-55)

☐**APA-Q #313** ($1 or so from John Boardman, 234 E. 19th St., Brooklyn, NY 11226-5302): A general-interest Science Fiction amateur press association. The folks here actually spend a goodly amount of time discussing SF—John Boardman presents a nice look at the non-future of military SF—but also get heavily into humor and silliness as well. A long-running tri-weekly apa that just keeps plowing along. (S-50)

APATHEIST JOURNAL #6 (SASE from David Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): A newsletter for those who are frankly bored by the thought of contemplating Eternal Questions. It runs in the general direction of cynicism, but usually doesn't get excited enough to actually finish the trip. (S-1)

APPALACHIAN EARTH FIRST! Earth Day Edition (Donation from Ernie Reed, PO Box 309, Nellysford, VA 22958): For Earth Day these folks dug up a bunch of ecological cartoons, from Pogo to Calvin. Then they give some suggestions on actions to do when the media circus is over. They also report the interesting news that northern California & Oregon Earth First!ers have renounced tree spiking as a tactic. (S-10)

AQUARIAN ALTERNATIVES #171 ($1 from Aquarian Research Foundation, 5620 Morton St., Philadelphia, PA 19144): A newsletter for people seeking peace, community and a better world. Editor Art Rosenblum continues to do good work in tracking down and networking various intentional communities in this country. He's also pushing for a radical alternative to the peace movement—ie, the total abolition of the military. (S-8)

☐**ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT #1** ($2 from Brian Staker, 1493 University Village, Salt Lake City, UT 84108): A collection of artwork and words taken from a variety of sources—Mormon propaganda, aptitude tests, textbooks, kid's stories, and more. It's all jumbled together as a bit of Plagiarist artwork. Open to original submissions too. (S-18)

THE ART AND WRITING OF BUCKY MONTGOMERY #2 (Free to publishers from 692 Calero Ave., San Jose, CA 95123): Well, Bucky has one of the attributes of the successful writer: a colossal ego. This zine is entirely his own stories and artwork, and gets sent to editors who might be interested. The page of rejection letters shows a variety of reactions to this technique, but he did sell a batch of art from #1. I'm not too thrilled by the stories in here, although "Lost and Found" did have its moments. (S-36t)

☐**ARTEST #1-3** ($1 (?) from Irwin Oostindie, 1509 Merlynn Cr., N. Vancouver, BC, V7J 2X9, CANADA): A youth paper with a focus on arts and politics. This is the first place I've read about the Vancouver 5 in a good long time, for example. They also get into tuition costs, music reviews, pro-choice activism, and much more. (T-24t)

ARTPAPER Vol. 9 #8-9 ($20/10 issues from 119 N. 4th St., Minneapolis, MN 55401): A monthly tabloid of art and politics which goes far beyond listing openings and events in the Twin Cities. #8 has a spread on the Helms attempt to wipe out phone sex and its implications for the gay press. Prison writing and "Fascist architecture" pop up in #9. (T-36t)

ARTPOLICE Vol. 17 #1 ($1 & 2 stamps from PO Box 10265, Minneapolis, MN 55458): A collection of drawings ranging from simple and representational through somewhat surreal to downright disturbing. Masks are stripped away, inanimate objects turn on their users, symbolic drawings about. Sure to provoke and bemuse. (HL-24)

ARTS AND BUSINESS QUARTERLY Winter 1990 (Donation from Prince George's Arts Council, 6611 Kenilworth Ave. #215, Riverdale, MD 20737): PGAC exists to help make links between business donors and the arts in Prince George's County. They hand out a fair amount of grant money each year, and work to make business participation more active. Most of their work seems pretty mainstream, though some interesting theater and visual work is mentioned in this issue. (S-6t)

ARTSFOCUS Vol. IV #1 ($10/yr from 1514 Western Ave., Seattle, WA 98101): All manner of arts news from around Seattle, with space given to both the avant-garde (which even gets panned in places) as well as more traditional productions. Calendar, reviews, notes on the latest funding troubles are all here. Clark Humphrey's MISC report on popular culture appears as an integral part of this tabloid as well. (T-8t)

☐**ART STIMULUS #2** ($15/yr from Medium's Art Centre, 87 Beaty Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6K 3B3, CANADA): This zine is devoted to documenting an unusual art show, which occurred not in a gallery but in the Bloor Street United Church. The artists each take the space to explain their work, and this is complemented by some theoretical background to the show, texts of sermons, and critical reaction (S-48)

ASYMPTOTE Summer 1990 ($8/4 issues from PO Box 11627, Memphis, TN 38111-0627): A medley of popular culture and fictional writing. Harvey Pekar takes a few pages to try to pop the bubble that is Thomas Pynchon, while Ann Magnuson contributes some strange and eerie short prose. There are interviews as well, including one with filmmaker Jim Jarmusch. (S-40t)

ATROCITY Vol. 14 #4-5 ($8/12 issues from Hank Roll, 2419 Greensburg Pike, Pittsburgh, PA 15221): A collection of sick jokes, office humor, and other slightly risque delights. #5 includes more of Neal Wilgus's LEAK news stories and some notes on what Real Programmers do and don't do. (S-16r)

☐**AURORA MAGAZINE** Vol. 1 #8 ($2 from R.S. Haulk, Rt. 2 Box 943, Forest City, NC 28043): A selection of fiction and true-life essays, concentrating on the writers of North Carolina and Appalachia. People write about WWII experiences, learning to farm, or dangerous accidents. It's unpretentious in the extreme, and captures and authentic American voice quite well. (T-16t)

THE AUSTRALIAN EXPATRIATE Vol. 1 #4 ($24/12 issues from 3809 Plaza Dr. #107-307, Oceanside, CA 92056): This one will be of interest both to Australians pining for their native land and to Americans who'd like a glimpse of life down under. They carry news, such as the Commonwealth Games results, which is seldom found in US papers. Also included are wine reviews, notes on Australian TV, kangaroo distribution, Australian arts in North

America, and so on. (O-24t)

AUTOPSY #8 ($1 ppd from 89 Pangeza St., Stafford Heights, Brisbane, QLD 4053, AUSTRALIA): A zine for exploitation films and related media—there are fanzine and record reviews here as well. But their chief love is obviously the lower reaches of video, from *Troma's War* to *Spermula*. (A5-8r)

☐**AV-17 NEWS** #1 (Donation from PO Box 273, Arivaca, AZ 85601): "AV" stands for "Anarchy Village" in this case, a secretive settlement somewhere in the Sonora Desert area that is trying to become independent and which has in fact declared its secession from the USA. This page is mostly a plug for the group, which is also associated with the IMWU. (D-1)

☐**AVANT!** Vol. 5 #4-5 ($10/yr from 1805 Robert St., New Orleans, LA 70115): A biweekly "Student Journal of Progressive Thought" from the Tulane/Loyola university campus. #4 is mostly about the continuing drive to divest from South African investment there, though a most interesting article also reveals the systematic ignoring of news by the local **TIMES-PICAYUNE**. #5 is an Earth Day issue, with Deep Ecology and a look at the corporate co-option of the environmental movement. (S-8t)

☐**AXIOM OF CHOICE** ("Donation/trade/sliding scale" from Matt Malakoff, 2359 Ashmead Pl. NW, Washington, DC 20009): Matt appears to be bursting with more ideas and connections than he can easily organize, so this mass of photocopied type and manuscripts tends to hop around quite a bit. Math, deconstructionism, deep ecology, politics, the good life, and mutual aid are a few of the subjects he speculates on, trying to make connections between science and culture. (S-25)

BABBLE #5 ($4 from Mr. Bones, 408 Queen St. W, Toronto, ONT, M5V 2A7, CANADA): This collection of texts, collages, poems, drawings, and who knows what else starts off with a "Stupid Pill" in a plastic bag on the cover. Inside many of the contributors are dealing with sex, from a variety of viewpoints, most far from the mainstream. Some things are suggestive, some are disgusting, and some are just confused. Somewhere between experimental literature and mail art. (HL-120r)

BABUSHKIN'S DIGEST #1 (sort of) ($2 from Lawrence Bush, 30 Old Whitfield Rd., Accord, NY 12404): Back after a long absence engendered by twins, this zine of Jewish humor is as funny and as offensive as ever. Larry takes a look at some curious inseminal situations to determine whether the babies are Jewish, invites people to send in public apologies, and prints some strange poetry. There's a collage of the 23rd Psalm featuring modern injustice and a phony NY TIMES cover as well. (S-24t)

BABY CONNECTION Vol. 6 #1 ($10/yr from PO Drawer 13320, San Antonio, TX 78213-3320): A news tabloid for expectant mothers and new parents. They get into infant massage, toys designed for your young child's sensory needs, and natural alternatives to LaMaze breathing (which doesn't work for everyone). Fathers are not neglected, either. (T-12t)

BACKWOODS HOME MAGAZINE #4 ($9.95/yr from PO Box 1624, Ventura, CA 93002): A fine and growing magazine for the environmentally-concerned homesteader. They talk about solar electricity, building and roofing houses, canning tomatoes, ram-pumps for your water and catfish farming—just to name a few subjects. I'm stashing my copies away for that dreamed-of day when the FF office finally moved out to the woods somewhere. (S-56t)

BAHLASTI PAPERS Vol. IV #9-10 ($2.25 [checks to "CASH"] from Kali Lodge, Ordo Templi Orientis, PO Box 15038, New Orleans, LA 70115): A zine of magick, Enochian visions, pathworkings, and much serialized esoteric fiction. There are some pieces that stand alone, such as the reaction of Satan to Mapplethorpe's "Piss Christ" as reported in #9. They also hold events and generally carry on in the New Orleans area. (S-10t)

BALLOT ACCESS NEWS Vol. 5 #9-Vol. 6 #1 ($6/yr from 3201 Baker St., San Francisco, CA 94123): A newsletter concerned with the chances of third parties getting on to the official ballot in various states and thus having some shot at participating in the democratic process. There's some good news, in the form of legislatures making it easier, and some bad new, but overall it still seems to be very difficult for anyone who is not a Demopublican to even get heard. (S-6t)

BASEBALL DIARY Vol. 8 #4 ($15/season from 3042 6th Ave., Sacramento, CA 95817): A celebration of baseball in various literary modes, from poetry right through straight reportage of games. #4 has several pieces inspired by the confluence of the World Series and the earthquake, plus the usual fabulous cover collage work. (S-12t)

☐**BEAN ZINE** #14 (50¢ from 1359 Oxford Ave., Kingsville, ONT, N9Y 2S8): A baffling collection of all manner of stuff from the punk/alternative scene. There's a couple pages of skateboarding, collages, short stories, a music review or two, and more. It's all packed in with cartoons and marginal scribbles. (D-20r)

☐**BEARS ON TEXT** #1-2 ($2 from 1203 S. Fess, Bloomington, IN 47401): A new collection of art and writing which, for some reason, comes looseleaf in a plastic bag. There's short stories about bears, deranged drawings and careful colleges, lots of poetry and even a litcrit essay or two (Tom Wolfe and Semiotext[e] SF both appear in #2. They seem open to a wide variety of work, and not too concerned with presenting a cohesive whole. (S-54t)

BEHIND THE WALLS Vol. 2 #1 ($10/yr from 5 Star Press, PO Box 4167, Halfmoon, NY 12065): A networking, support and resistance journal for folks in prison. They are especially interested in documenting injustices (there's a technical question over sentencing for LSD sales in this issue, for example, which deserves consideration) and getting the word out about the way prisoners are treated. Pen pal and zine listings are also among their activities. $5 for people in prison. (D-24t)

☐**BEING** Feb. 1990 ($3 from M. Talarico & Daughter, PO Drawer 417, Oceanside, CA 92054): A collection of fantastic fiction, from a New Age children's story to some SF to traditional horror. It seems rather a random selection of work, and much of it is short and more incident than story, but there are a few bits here that are readable. Kathleen O'Sullivan manages a nice if somewhat mainstream story in this issue. (HL-40)

☐**BENTO** #2 (The Usual from David Levine and Kate Yule, 117 NW Trinity Pl. #37, Portland, OR 97209): A science fiction fanzine that is perfectly normal except for its size—this is the first SF mini I've seen. Within, Kate and David write interesting little essays on future shock, being young old fogies, square dancing and the nasty underbelly of George Jetson's world. Very enjoyable. (M-28t)

BESIDES #2 (SASE (?) from Ross Best, 2112 New Hampshire NW #805, Washington, DC 20009): This time, **BESIDES** is a reprint of a letter from 1961 "found in a book". It's a long litany of gossip and Christian piety, and it fits the two pages here suspiciously well. A put-on? Why? Opaque to me. (S-2t)

THE BETTY PAGES #5 ($4.50 & age statement from Pure Imagination Publishing, 88 Lexington Ave. #9C, New York, NY 10016): A magazine devoted to the art of the pin-up, with particular attention to famous model Betty Page. This issue has a "jungle" theme, with a look at Hollywood's jungle beauties and an interview with Irish McCalla ("Sheena"). Readers' letters, a checklist of magazines, and of course lots of photos (including some in color) also abound. (D-80t)

BETWEEN THE LINES Vol. 2 #2-3 ($10/yr from Peace Center, 1917A 16th St., Sacramento, CA 95814): A collective paper for social activists in the Sacramento area. #2 is loaded with humor; I especially enjoyed the spread on creative revolutionary actions. #3 has the rundown on last year's anti-nuclear protests across the country. They also give space for pages from the Christic Institute, the Unitarian Universalists, and others. (T-16t)

BETWEEN THE ROPES #14-15 ($1 from 336 Harbor Dr., Lido Beach, NY 11561): A short wrestling bulletin consisting mostly of editorial opinions from Adam Horowitz and Brad Burns. In #14 they also invite a buddy to rate a bunch of the more prominent wrestling sheets. In #15 they reply to a review in **CHOKEHOLD** and consider the possibilities for replacing Ric Flair. (S-7)

BIG DICK WORSHIP #6 ($1.50 from PO Box 961, Simsbury, CA 06070): Back again and as confusing and loaded with beefcake as ever. There's a sexually explicit advice column, mooning over cute male singers, short stories, disgusting comics, raving editorials, bitchiness from one staff member to another...who knows. (S-32)

BIG FOREHEAD EXPRESS Vol. 1 #2-3 ($5/6 issues from Incite Information, PO Box 17406, Arlington, VA 22216): A roundup of news stories which are under reported by the major media. In #3, these range from the reissuing of **THE ANARCHIST COOKBOOK**

to the foreign policy of Iraq to the evidence that Jennifer Casolo may in fact have known about the arms found in her backyard in El Salvador. An intriguing mix. (D-16t)

THE BIRDCAGE LINER #11 (SASE from 516 3rd St. NE, Massillon, OH 44646): A collection of Christian punk commentary, short stories, animal rights, and whatever else strikes the fancy of the editors, including some strong criticism of the Catholic Church. Unfortunately the copying on this issue is poor, and made worse by every page being colored with crayons. (D-40r)

BLACK COFFEE #8 ($1 from C. Goldberg, PO Box 6248, Albany, NY 12206-0248): More fun from around the world. This time they get their hands on a brand new Bob Black essay on the (lack of) future of the workplace. This hopeful piece is conterpointed by the editor's dark speculations about the possible coming repression of dissidents and look at the excesses of the military. There's poetry, drawings by Kurt Lemming, and even an essay by Lorraine Schein starting out with black coffee. (D-12r)

THE BLACK FLAME Vol. 2 #1 ($3.25 from PO Box 499, Radio City Sta., New York, NY 10101-0499): A Satanist journal which follows directly in the path of the Church of Satan, and does so in a well-written, scholarly fashion. From Eugenics to Nietzsche, they look at the modern correlates to Satanism, exploring just what this philosophy is (and isn't) and what Satanists *do.* (S-24t)

☐**THE BLACK PAGE** #1-2 (SASE from PO Box 78304, Tucson, AZ 85703-8304): A new zine of rants and raves and poetry and stories. #1 and #2 have a lot to say about landlords, while #3 goes into the fun of poverty in general. Meanwhile there are modest proposals for education, notes on the Panamanian invasion, and other goodies. Seems to be from someone who's mad as hell and not going to take it any more. (S-6t)

BLIP #128-129 ($1 from Joka Press, PO Box 74, Nokomis, IL 62075): Put out by Oka and (primarily) Joe Kempe, this personal-flavored zine ranges from baseball nostalgia (and it donates 10% of its revenues to the Bottomley-Ruffing-Schalk Baseball Museum) to memories of printing to photos of strange mailboxes to limerick-completion contests. Enjoyable, and a ways off from most of the small press I see. Lots of humor here, from one-liners to deadpan stories. (D-40t)

☐**BLOODGRAVE'S GRIM TIMES** #1 ("For Flax" from Pope George Ringo II, TESC, Bldg. D Room 106, Olympia, WA 98505): This is a single-page flyer of paragraphs clipped out of various sources—stealth blimps, military regulations, international law, outer space, tear gas and benzene pop out of the general sea of words. (S-1t)

THE BLUE GUITAR Vol. 1 #3 ($3 from Richard Kearns, 3022 N. 5th St., Harrisburg, PA 17110): A small litmag that's interested in seeing submissions and trades. They publish strange and rough work, from a poem by Jonathan Levant to Lamont Steptoe's "Bombing Runs". There's also a smattering of art and the second chapter of Paul Roger's novel "I Peter Nicol". (D-41t)

BLUE LIGHTS #29/30 ($6 from Lil Sibley, 4945 "U" St., Sacramento, CA 95817): The newsletter of Spotlight Starman, a dedicated group of fans of the Starman television series. They keep track of what the principals fro that series are up to now, hold conventions, have fun, and swap lore and trivia about the show. Other bits of SF TV sneak in from time to time; I noted some Quantum Leap stuff in this issue. (S-48r)

BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE Vol. XLIII #8-9 (Donation from Institute of Human Relations, Loyola University, New Orleans, LA 70118-6195): A newsletter which focuses each issue on a different area of the peace or social justice struggles in the world. #8 examines the possibilities for spending a peace dividend, while #9 documents the existence of political prisoners and prisoners of conscience in the United States, looking at some of the reasons activists are behind bars, how they're treated, and how the US gets away with claiming that they don't exist. (S-8t)

☐**BLUE SWAN NOTES** Summer 1990 ($1 from PO Box 9925, San Diego, CA 92109): "A Brief Look at Extraordinary Fashion Catalogs". They cover folks who go in for basic black, stiletto heels, hippie clothes, spandex, rubber, plastic...you name it. For folks who want to dress for the scene, this will get you plenty of contacts. (D-4)

B MAGAZINE #7 ($3 from B Media Projects, PO Box 70612, Washington, DC 20024): A selection of short essays on subjects ranging from the history of Motorhead to our urge to get high. There's a few pages on Exxon and why it's such a jerky company, music reviews, and some notes on chaos and Prigogine's theories. Wide-ranging and generally well-written. (S-30t)

BOBWORLD Vol. 1 #3 ($1 from 1001 Belvidere Rd., Phillipsburg, NJ 08865): A humorous little zine with a strange view of the world. There's a script for a Saturday Night Live skit (rejected by the program), Romanian dictators, propaganda for the First Church of Ron, Reagan, and much more. The print is sometimes marginal but then the humor is too. (S-6)

☐**THE BOILER ROOM** #2-5 ($4 from Pamela Wetzel, 503 2nd Ave., Altoona, PA 16602): A newsletter for fans of Freddy Krueger and the *Nightmare on Elm Street* movies. It prints trivia, a few drawings of the ghoulish Freddie, notes on plot changes, and so on. There's also a section of ads from subscribers. (S-14)

BOING BOING #3 ($3 from PO Box 12311, Boulder, CO 80303): A zine for happy futurists and playful puppies of all ages. #3 leads off with a Rudy Rucker interview, looks at some updated Tarot suggestions from Antero Alli, and explores the world of the Kaleido-Sky brain toy. Hypertext, Fractools software, Ace Backwords comics, future pig hunts, and who knows what other odd surprises lurk in the corners. Recommended. (S-40t)

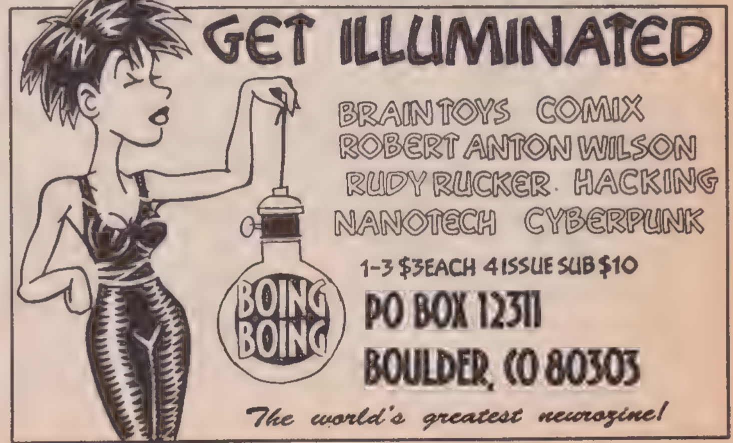
☐**BOOK/BAG MAG/NET** #1 ($2 from Ben Beebe, 766 E. 15 #18, Eugene, OR 97401): This one's a bagazine: a collection of stuff in a big ziplock bag. Right now it's all printed material, but I don't see why it can't include bulkier artifacts in the future. The contents include stickers, poetry, bits of artwork, comics, collages, and some stuff photocopied from other sources, with an overall socially conscious feel tempered with some satire. (S-20, more or less)

☐**BOOKS FOR ALL KIDS** Preview Issue ($1 & SASE from 3336 Aldrich Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A new review of children's books concentrating on "inclusive books"—those that include people other than white nuclear able-bodied families. Editor Carol Kennedy sensitively reviews a dozen or so books, mentions a few playthings that fit in with this worldview, and hands out one dishonorable mention to a production that should have known better. A unique resource, as far as I know. (S-6t)

BORDER WATCH May 1990 ($1/4 issues from AICF, PO Box 525, Monterey, VA 24465): The newsletter of the American Immigration Control Foundation, a group which believes that open borders are the sure death of the American dream. They're involved in things like the movement to make English the official language, and keep track of new bills in Congress affecting immigration. (S-8t)

☐**BOTULISM** #1 ($1.50 from Jim Kempkes, 41-A Hazelhurst Rd., Rochester, NY 14606): A mix of collage and comics with a few words thrown in for good measure. They take on healthy eating, straight edge, guns, porn and government with equal fervor. This leads to a sort off covert nihilism, in which they enjoy tearing things down. Pretty funny in spots, at least when they're making fun of people you dislike yourself. (S-17)

BRAIN DEAD #12 ($2 from John Bergin, 4503 Washington St., Kansas City, MO 64111): A very arty collection of words and stories and poems and drawings. Overall it tends to have a very pleasing modern graphics look, wallowing in big patches of black, shadows, and intensity. Oberc poetry, Schutzbank record reviews, and a collaboration between John Bergin and Ted McKeever stand out in



this issue. Carving out its own territory and doing it well. (HL-60)

BREAKTHROUGH Winter 1990 ($10/4 issues from Prairie Fire Organizing Committee, PO Box 14422, San Francisco, CA 94114): The PFOC is one of the last remaining revolutionary groups from the 1960s, pushing forward a critique of American society on a number of fronts. In this issue they publish articles on fighting AIDS and gay rights, on herstory and "Dyke Tactics", on anti-racism and the crisis in socialism. They interview an FMLN member and put forth a political analysis of the situation in Puerto Rico. Dense reading, with a lot to say. (S-44t)

BRICK #3 (Donation from PO Box 1153, Russellville, AL 35653): An anarchist zine dedicated to direct action. #3, though, is more devoted to political analysis than actual tactics, highlighting the revolt in Eastern Europe and the sad state of the environment. They do suggest Goodyear as a target, but don't spell out anything to do to the company. (HL-4)

BRIMSTONE Vol. 1 #5 ($5 from 231 Kennedy Dr., Malden, MA 02148): This Satanist zine starts out with a reprinted FBI report on ritualistic crime, which says flat out that most of the seminars on this subject are nonsense. Then they get off into Satanic philosophy, notes on behavior for this aeon, replies to articles on other publications, and so on. They'll be happy to have you investigate and join them in evil. (S-48)

☐**THE BROTHERHOOD OF SETH NEWSLETTER** Vol. 1 #3-Vol. II #1 (SASE from Ananael, PO Box 5233, Ellsworth, ME 04605): The Brotherhood of SeTH is a Thelemic group following a homophiliac current of magick. Their newsletter is short and layered with images of men loving one another with occasional text. For your SASE they;ll send you a sample and introductory information. They also sell various Thelemic and other obscure books by mail. (S-6)

A BUG IN MY FRIES MAGAZINE Vol. 1 #3 ($1 & a stamp from Robert Howington, PO Box 470186, Fort Worth, TX 76147): A small litmag that manages a mix of contents. #3 has a rant from Bob Z. about the dangers of reading fanzines and a fun if somewhat padded crime story by Fred Lindstrom. Some silly endorsements, poetry, comics and essays are also included. (S-14)

☐**THE BURNING SPEAR** Feb. 1990 ($10/yr from PO Box 27205, Oakland, CA 94602): The paper of the African People's Socialist Party, which also bills itself as "The Voice of the International Black Revolution". They're heavy into rhetoric which most other groups abandoned years ago, calling for immediate violent resistance: "Push Back the Pigs" is the headline on the first page. Also full of socialist theory and manifestoes. (T-44t)

BURP NEWS Apr.-May 1990 ($1 from Bill Ridgely, 7430 Gene St., Alexandria, VA 22310): The newsletter of a club of beer-making friends—to be precise, of Brewers United for Real Potables. They meet and sample one another's concoctions and then write about them here. There are also notes on places to buy beer, books about beer, and so on. (S-10)

BVI CENTRAL Vol. 9 #2-4 ($1 from J. LeRoy, PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843): A zine of personal ramblings, rantings, and other stuff from J. LeRoy. #2 is a potpourris issue, with an excerpt from his novel, more strange politics in the life of Randall Cantern, and thoughts on college. #3 is the most somber writing I've ever seen from J., a lengthy and affecting account of the funeral of a close friend. #4 adds admittedly pretentious DTP features and has a spirited defense of autobiographical writing. (D-18t)

☐**BVI SANTA FE** ($1.49 from Simon G. Bone, St. John's College, 1160 Camino de la Cruz Blanca, Santa Fe, NM 87501-4599): Simon used to publish **BVI-SOUTH**; now he's popped up in a new location with a new moniker. This introductory issue is a collection of his columns for a campus paper which appears only in bathroom stalls. It's mostly an attempt to make a population of undergraduates think, a rather Quixotic venture. (S-8)

BVI'S SPITTLE AND PUKE ($2 from PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826): Alleged humor from the BVI network—this is the BVI publication which I find most consistently falls flat. It's a collection of photos and graphics lifted from other sources ranging from newspaper stories to **NATIONAL LAMPOON**, with no overall theme. (D-8)

BVI SPITTLE & PUKE ($1 from 5155 Vine #617, Lincoln, NE 68504): Oh no, it's spreading! This S&P features a nude woman reciting the Warlock Pinchers tour schedule, some photos, a notice about a curious order of nuns and some exceedingly bad poetry. Why do people do these things? (D-8r)

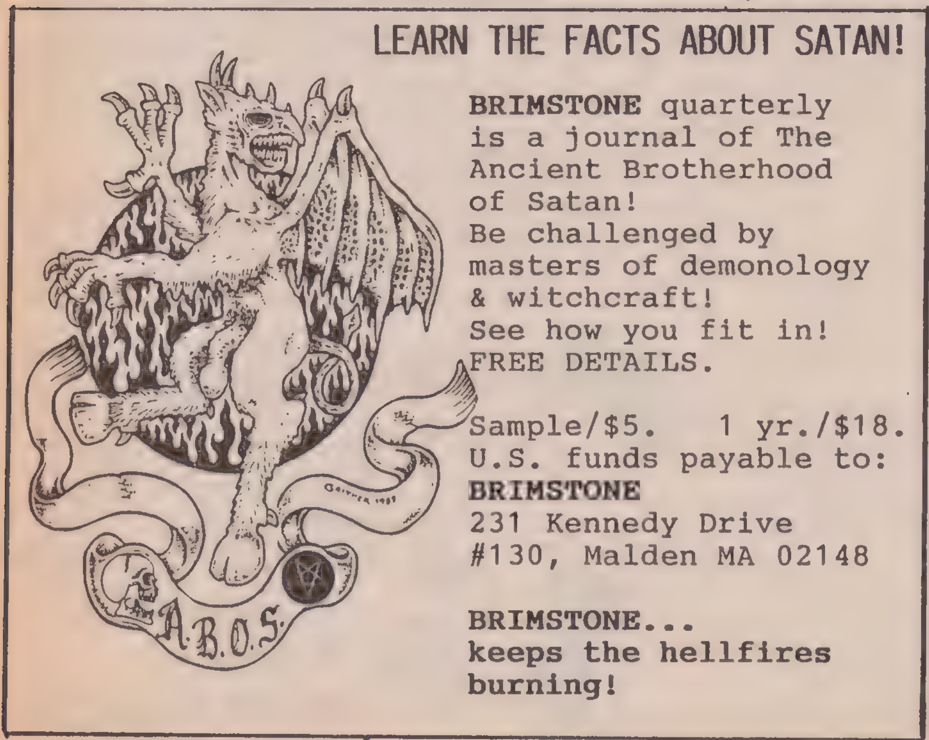
☐**BY THE NUMBERS** Vol. 1 #3 ($1 (?) from Donald A. Coffin, Indiana University Northwest, 3400 Broadway, Gary, IN 46408): A newsletter produced by the members of the Statistical Analysis Committee of the Society for American Baseball Research. They are into esoteric ways of calculating pitcher performance, clutch ability, teams likely to win, and probably anything else from the diamond. (S-8)

☐**CADAVERS, FRUIT, AND GOVERNMENT FORMS** #1 ($1.25 from Jeff Dworak, 442 Rte. 146, Clifton Park, NY 12065): A zine that reviews things across a wide variety of fields: chiefly music, but also video games, movies, printed matter and a few odds and ends. Along the way Jeff throws in some comics and a page of pictures of half-naked women. Lots of short band profiles and a few short stories here too. (D-36)

CAMPUS REVIEW Vol. 6 #2-4 ($5/yr from 336 S. Clinton #16, Iowa City, IA 52240): A college paper that promises to tell "The Right Side Of The Story". #2 looks at the fall of communism (modestly headlined "We Won!" and carries their usual mix of investigation, humor, and stories guaranteed to outrage liberals. #3 has a nasty "Guide to the Campus Left" and a back cover Libertarian ad. #4 comes with their annual **DAILY IDIOT** parody of the official campus paper. (T-16t)

THE CANADIAN WRESTLING REPORT Vol. 5 #8-9 ($5/6 issues from 15 Penrose Ave., Kitchener, ONT, N2A 1E9, CANADA): A wrestling bulletin from Canada which mainly focuses on the US side of the sport, although it does have better coverage of the Canadian promotions than the other bulletins I get. Not too spectacular or flashy, but it does make pretty good use of logos in its layout and the writing is solid. (S-6)

CAPRA #83 (Contact Mac C. Reed, PO Box 18293, Milwaukee, WI 53218): This amateur press association for cinematophiles is undergoing a renaissance in recent months, to the point that the roster is full, but they'll be happy to add you to the waiting list. Movies discussed range from extremely low to extremely high-brow (Ford Rafferty is still working through Sinclair Lewis in #83)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and there's a nice feeling of camaraderie behind the discussions. (S-150)

CARIBBEAN NEWSLETTER Vol. 10 #3/4 ($10/yr from Friends For Jamaica, PO Box 20392, Park West Sta., New York, NY 10025): A roundup of news from a region full of countries that most Americans don't pay any attention to unless we happen to be invading them this week. Long features in this issue look at things in Grenada and Guyana, where all is certainly not rosy. (S-16)

THE CARING CONNECTION Vol. 6 #2-4 (Sample for SASE from Phyllis Burns, 3060 Bridge St. #342, Brighton, CO 80601): A publication of news and information for the disabled and caregivers of the world, together with some input in the form of poetry and essays. They print tidbits of legal and medical news, with new advances being highlighted. (S-6)

CARTOON MARKETS Jan.-Apr. 1990 ($3 from Loyal Pallady, 90 W. Winnipeg Ave. #1, St. Paul, MN 55117-5428): A cooperative effort for folks who are trying to sell cartoons to periodicals. Loyal does the spadework to hunt up potential markets, but then depends on his readers to try them and report on experiences, rates, and so on. Sort of like SCAVENGER'S, but for visual work. (S-10)

□**CATALYST** Vol. 1 #1 ($1.50 *CASH* from PO Box 84031, Phoenix, AZ 85071-4031): A new publication that wants to support all the various arts in the general region of Phoenix and is inviting submissions, They review a few tapes, print some manifestoes and poetry and artwork, and generally indicate a willingness to look broadly at the arts in #1. (HL-20t)

CATHARSIS #9 ($2 from PO Box 3181, Suffolk, VA 23434): Music and stuff from Virginia. #9 features a roundup of the local music scene (such as it is), including an interview with a dj and a batch of local band stories. #10 gets into the politics surrounding building a new broadcast tower for a local rock station. They also print short fiction and intriguing photography, plus odds and ends like a photography column. (T-16t)

CATHEDRAL OF INSANITY #11-12 ($2 from Julie Luce, 1216 W. Ivesbrook, Lancaster, CA 93534): A collection of poetry, short prose, and the occasional playlet. There's a mildly experimental feeling here, a fractured view of the world that comes back reflecting some fragments of the truth. Contributors in #11 include Paul Weinman, BZ Niditch, and John Bennett. Bill Tope has an LSD horror story in #12. (D-12)

THE CAULDRON Vol. 1 #4 ($1 (?) from 810 Arch, Ann Arbor, MI 48104): A somewhat diffuse tabloid of social action and innovative ideas from a collective in Ann Arbor. There's some anarchism here but that's not the only focus; there are strong feminist pieces, short fiction and poetry, notes from a building squatted by the homeless, and more. Still a growing organic whole, it'll be interesting to watch this one develop. (T-16t)

CAVES AND CUCUMBERS #3 (25¢ from 8710 Hargrave St., Philadelphia, PA 19152-2123): A collection of stuff from all over—they say they'll print almost anything that is "most righteous". This time that includes some attacks on New Kids on the Block, the basics of Green consumerism, a Wheel of Fortune joke, and a quiz to test your mental flexibility. (D-12)

CERES ORGANICS #4 ($1 from PO Box 14338, Madison, WI 53714): A small tabloid directed at organic growers and concerned consumers. They're providing good up-to-date info on the political controversies surrounding BST (the new cow hormone), as well as lots of short news bits. This issue also has a listing of organic farmers' organizations all over the place. (T-8t)

CERTAINTY #5 $15 from 85 West Ealing Broadway, London W13 9BP, ENGLAND): A magazine for people on the fetishistic side of the sexual world, featuring photos of folks in leather and less, an interview with Xaviera Hollander, ads from readers, an account of a hot night at a fantasy club, and much more. They advocate safe sex and having fun, but their idea of fun is decidedly out of the mainstream. (A5-70t)

THE CHAOS NETWORK Vol. 2 #2 ($49/yr from People Technologies,. 200 Lincoln Sq., PO Box 4007, Urbana, IL 61801): These folks are taking the concepts of chaos as developed mathematically and applying them to social theory, most notably organizational behavior. I've had the opportunity to be exposed to a lot of such work in the past, and 90% or more of it is garbage, models floating free of reality. It appears that the Chaos Network is maintaining high enough standards to avoid this problem, and slowly working towards ideas which are both descriptive and prescriptive for dealing with dysfunctional organizations. (S-8t)

CHELSEA BAILEY'S HOUSE OF FUN #6 ($4 from Frank Kogan, 3352A 26th St., San Francisco, CA 94110): Previously **WHY MUSIC SUCKS**, this discussion forum is moving from music to postmodernism, bra straps, and who knows what else as discussion topics. Frank lost me some time ago, but there are still plenty of participants here; if you're into intellectual discussions and think you can hold you own in both music history and critical theory, drop in. (S-45)

□**CHICAGO PRECONSCIOUS** Vol. 1 #1-2 ($3 from Maxpress, 717 W. Maxwell St., Chicago, IL 60607): Muckraking in the classical tradition, focused largely on the politics of public transportation in the Chicago area. In addition to uncovering current shady deals, they suggest and price alternatives that would be better for people. I don't know enough about the area to know whether all of this makes sense, but they seem to be thorough, backed up by official documents recovered by FOIA requests, and reasonable. (S-32t)

CHOKEHOLD #20-21 ($1 from Lance LeVine, 3113 S. Parnell, Chicago, IL 60616): A wrestling bulletin that doesn't take itself, the sport or especially other bulletins too seriously. Lance reports on matches, prints letters from outrageous and outraged readers, and generally smarts off. (S-10)

CHRISTIAN*NEW AGE QUARTERLY Vol. 2 #2 ($2.50 from Bethsheva's Concern, PO Box 276, Clifton, NJ 07011-0276): A newsletter which attempts to build some bridges between rather diverse groups of believers, looking for the core of shared truth between the New Age and Christian traditions. This is a special issue, devoted to the question "Is Jesus the Only Way?", and there are a lot of varied opinions (though no fundamentalist Christian ones) on the answer. (HL-24)

CHRISTIAN VISION April 1990 ($5/4 issues from Skysong Press, RR1 Washago, ONT, L0K 2B0, CANADA): A market newsletter for writers working with Christian themes and imagery. Besides market updates, this issue includes a special section on Christian teen markets and an interview with Canadian Christian poet Brian Vanderlip. (D-12t)

CHUCK'S NEWSLETTER #18 ($12/yr from 1060 5th Ave. #4003, San Diego, CA 92101-5102): Chuck Elliott puts out this personalzine to recount his own experiences in the mental health system, where he ended up in 1982—and where he is still. He writs of life in the B&C (Board & Care Hotel), his fellow patients, and, in the back of this issue, his original breakdown. Good-natured and insightful in places. (S-8)

□**CHUNK-BLOWER** #0 (50¢ from Jason Beck, 3737 Campus Dr. #203, Waco, TX 76705): A preliminary issue of a new movie zine. Mostly this issue is Jason's reviews of horror videos, revealing that he's a fan of sicko movies so long as they aren't too predictable. A pretty slapdash effort. (D-12r)

CITY MORGUE #2-5 ($1.50 & 2 stamps from Arpad Jasko Jr., 376 Hayes, Holland, MI 49424): "A Bi Monthly Publication of Cinematic Scum", this one specializes in reviews of cannibal, zombie, and other cheerful flicks. Arpad is ruthless to films he doesn't like but finds plenty to say about the revolting ones he does like. Some print and music reviews round out the package, along with some simmering white power allusions. #5 looks at *Elevator Girls in Bondage* and has lots of guest stuff from Dave Szurek. (S-30)

CIVIS #8 ($2 from Civitas, PO Box 26, Swain, NY 14884): An international newsletter from Hans Reusch, a physician who wants the immediate abolition of all animal experimentation on the grounds that it is medically useless. He argues this at length, along with supporting statements from other doctors, and keeps a close eye on the animal welfare groups as well. Orders will probably include the CIVITAS newsletter from the NY contact group as well. (A4-12t)

□**THE CLARKE A. SANY NEWSLETTER** Vol. 5 #3 (SASE from PO Box 1551, Royal Oak, MI 48068): An item written mainly by Al Ackerman and John Bennett, and as deranged as that combination might leave you to believe. Sany is a combination audiophile and amateur dentist, and gets people into some odd adventures indeed. (D-8r)

□**THE CLERMONT NUZ** Vol. 5 #1 (SASE (?) from Dennis Griebenow, PO Box 2174, Minneapolis, MN 55402): A small newsletter with a personal feel to it. Dennis sneaks in some April

Fools' stories, talks about saving the environment, and posts a notice about a coming high school reunion. He's also got some nice writing on the part water played in his childhood. (S-4)

CLEVELAND ANSIBLE #6 (On request from PO Box 14841, Cleveland, OH 44114): The order blank says free, but if you want to help cover their costs, a buck would be about right. This zine spans a lot of different fandoms in the Cleveland area: Beauty and the Beast, Star Trek, Dr. Who, Marvel Comics and George Alec Effinger all get mentioned at one place or another in this issue. It leaves the impression of a synthesis going on and a strong multimodal fandom coming into being. (S-22)

□**CLIMBING** #118-119 ($24/yr from PO Box 339, Carbondale, CO 81623): When I say these people are crazy, you have to understand that I speak as a confirmed acrophobe. This is a big colorful click magazine about climbing—mostly free rock climbing, though some Alpine climbing does sneak in and there's a continuing controversy centered on the ethics of leaving bolts behind in the rocks. Not for the newcomer to the field, as the confusing welter of terms and ratings is left unexplained, but a beautiful magazine full of fantastic pictures of people doing unlikely things on rock faces (as well as indoors—a growing facet of the sport). #119 is a double-sized 20th anniversary issue, looking back at the growth and change in the sport. (S-144t)

CLIPOPHILIA #7 (65¢ postage from PO Box 5671, Portland, OR 97228): A collection of strange and wonderful newspaper clippings from legitimate sources. A few headlines: "Grandpa convicted of selling cocaine", "Montreal Might Microwave Snow", and "Light plane lands on moving truck". They want your donations of clippings as well as stamps and funds to cover costs. (S-26t)

COALITION FOR PRISONERS' RIGHTS NEWSLETTER Vol. 15 #3 (Donation from PO Box 1911, Santa Fe, NM 87501): Short news bits about the state of prisons country-wide and what is being done to mitigate poor conditions. #3 reports on the latest round of Supreme Court decisions on the death penalty and as always contains letters from a bunch of people on the inside. (HL-12)

COLLINWOOD REVISITED #14 ($2 from 2306 N. MacArthur, Oklahoma City, OK 73127): A fanzine for folks who love *Dark Shadows*. This is their year-end wrapup issue, with listings of other fan clubs and zines, lots of classified ads, and other contacts. They also review the DS books and comics and whatever else, print DS fiction, and generally keep this particular mythos alive. (S-36r)

COLTSFOOT Vol. XI #2 ($2 from James Troy, Rt. 1 Box 313A, Shipman, VA 22971): **COLTSFOOT** is a place for people to swap information on the lore of wild plants. This time someone has a few recipes for the common stinging nettle (causing me to look at the ones in my garden with a fresh eye) while another reader discusses salting berries to preserve them. Many food and medicinal uses come up in every issue here. (D-24r)

COLUMBIANA Vol. 3 #4 ($8/4 issues from Chesaw Rt. Box 83F, Oroville, WA 98844): A fine magazine from the Columbia River bioregion, with an emphasis on environmental news but plenty of culture as well. Besides clearcutting, landfills, incineration, and nuclear waste, this issue has an excellent section on free speech. This includes articles on current grand jury pressure on eco-activists and past successes by the Wobblies. (S-72t)

COMBAT SPORTS #120 ($12/6 issues from PO Box 651, Gracie Sta., New York, NY 10028-0011): Mostly wrestling coverage in a heavy-merchandising format, but they also get into rollergames as well. #120 includes a list of fan clubs and explains why they don't print unsubstantiated rumors, along with the usual news and views. They also put out **COMBAT SPORTS•GRAM**, a weekly with the late-breaking news, at 60¢ a clip. (S-16)

COMIC UPDATE #114 (50¢ from William Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): This reviewzine is centered in the small press comics and minicomics world, but it's interested in branching out a bit. They're also looking for news items from small press people. Not real flashy, but the few reviews here are pretty good. (M-8r)

□**COMLINK** #43 ($3.50/2 issues from Allyson M. W. Dyer, 932 ADS Box 1076R, FPO New York, NY 09571-2105): A SF zine which is mainly composed of letters written in by faithful readers. It's at a sort of a vortex between traditional fans and media fans, and shows that maybe the two groups can in fact talk to each other on neutral ground. Topics extend from *Star Trek* movies to conventions to whether Shatner wrote the book with his name on it. (S-22r)

COMMUNITY April-May 1990 (Donation from PO Box 131, Albany, NY 12201): A newsletter for the Capital District Lesbian & Gay community. Being as this is the state capital, they do a lot of legislative tracking, and generally keep an eye on local politics. But health and social concerns are here too, along with plenty of news on what is happening when. (S-12t)

THE COMPLEAT MOTHER Spring 1990 ($3 from Jody McLaughlin, PO Box 209, Minot, ND 58702): A fine magazine of pregnancy, birth, breastfeeding and childraising with an emphasis on alternatives: home birth, cloth diapers, midwifery, and more. It's almost entirely stories from readers, together with hints on what to do and not to do when your turn comes. Loving and exciting. (S-64t)

COMPOST MODERN LIFE #5 (1 stamp from Sean Wolf Hill, 7625 Casstown-Clark Rd., Troy, OH 45312): A simple look at cleaning up the world starting at home by living a low-impact life. This issue briefly inspects the Earth Day hype, but then turns to practical ideas. These include suggested ways to conserve electricity and the basics of raising chickens at home (well, if your home is rural, that is). (S-4r)

COMPOST NEWSLETTER Beltane 1990 ($2 [NO CASH] from Valerie Walker [note "for CNL" on check], 729 5th Ave., San francisco, CA 94118): A high-tech and rather humorous pagan zine primarily for the urban pagan. The Beltane issue includes thoughts on whether midlife must be a crisis, some letters, more snideness from Brent Gilman, and some notes on paganism popping up in mainstream life. (S-20t)

COMPUTER MART Vol. 1 #8-9 (50¢ from CM Publishing, PO Box 402, Schenectady, NY 12301): This is our local free tabloid about computers, with a mix of features and reviews. #8 includes an interview with yours truly about desktop publishing, while #9 features an update on an important legal battle for Sysop rights in Texas. They also publish a list of local BBS's and review software for IBM, Mac and Atari systems. (T-12t)

THE CONNECTION #164-165 (#2.50 from Erwin S. Strauss, PO Box 3343, Fairfax, VA 22038): An open forum, inhabited by a variety of people who wallow in fringe politics (mainly libertarian and anarchist) and often hide behind pseudonyms. It's a mix of crackpot theories, serious debate, bold new ideas, mudslinging and more—in short, an apa with a feistier character than most have. (D-84r)

□**CONNOISSEUR TIMES** Apr. 1990 (25¢ from 2340 W. 24th St., Chicago, IL 60608): A new publication that promises to concentrate on a single topic each issue. This one is focused on the Internal Revenue Service, with notes on the size of the noncompliance problem in the US, hints on how to avoid getting audited, and a look at the high-tech Criminal Investigation Division of the IRS. (S-8t)

CONSERVATORY OF AMERICAN LETTERS NEWSLETTER Vol. V #2 ($2 from PO Box 88, Thomaston, ME 04861): CAL is somewhere between a writer's co-op and a dedicated printshop for writers with books worth publishing. They are constantly trying to explore new ways of promotion and publishing, despite being on a financial shoestring. There's promise here, though as yet unfulfilled. (S-6t)

THE CONSTITUTION CHRONICLE Vol. 5 #1 ($3 from Students For Freedom c/o Nathaniel M. Naske, PO Box 80721, Fairbanks, AK 99708): About the best student publication I see these days, one which is not afraid to jump off the margins and see the underbelly of reality. This issue has UFO history, mysterious maps of Antarctica, a guide for the first-time LSD user, drugwars and big business, and tattooing, to name a few topics. Wild stuff. (S-34t)

CONTACT! Mar.-Apr. 1990 ($15/yr from Humanist Fellowship of San Diego, PO Box 87662, San Diego, CA 92138): A Humanist newsletter made up of short bits from all over. They praise prominent freethinkers from the past, slam the churches, and talk about life and what (if any) meaning it has. There's some stories in the March issue which are sort of questionable, one each slurring Catholics and Jews. (S-11t)

CONTENTIONS May 1990 ($1 (?) from Committee for the Free World, 211 E. 51 St., New York, NY 10022): A newsletter of intellectual essays which seems to generally be interested in questioning the ideals of the sixties. They are encouraged by the current attitude on campus, and hopeful that leftists grappling with changes in Eastern Europe will come to their senses. Interesting, though written in an annoying omniscient tone. (S-6t)

CONVOLUSIONS Vol. 2 #2 (2 IRCs from Cerebral Shorts, 212 Victoria Rd., Northcote 3070, AUSTRALIA): A classy little mail art magazine with international contacts. It includes a "lost and found" section for missing correspondents, announcements of forthcoming shows, and plenty of mail art. The pieces are presented spaciously, and the back cover generally has some colorful printing on it. (A5-20t)

COOKED Vol. 2 #5-14 (SASE from Todd Kristel, Box 1046, 3600 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19104): I never know quite what to expect from this single-sheet production. #10 includes rewrites of the opening of **BRIGHT LIGHTS, BIG CITY** in the style of various authors. #12, on the other hand, is entirely reviews of larger independent comics. #13 discusses conspiracies and the rules for successful literary impersonation. #14 has short reviews of a couple of big music zines. (S-2)

COOPERATIVES AND COMMUNITY MTM #59-60 ($5 from Bill Holden, 4131 Larwin Ave., Cypress, CA 90630): A monthly discussion newsletter (a "many-to-many" conversation) put out by some folks in Action Linkage, including myself. We're talking about how to build future intentional communities, how they fit into future societies, and even how to do something right now in the present. (D-54r)

CORNERSTONE #91 ($2 from Jesus People USA, 4707 N. Malden, Chicago, IL 60640): A gaudy desktop-published tabloid for young hip Christians. They give over a fair number of pages to music, but they go far beyond. Their investigators, for example, have revealed some books on contemporary Satanism as cheap frauds. This issue also features pieces on Nelson Mandela and an updating of the **SCREWTAPE LETTERS**. (T-40t)

□**CORSAIR IMPACT** #1 ($4.75 *CASH/MO* from Homebase Retail, PO Box 527, Cicero, NY 13039): A prison-produced litmag with quite a variety of features. There are defiant articles, a patriotic response to flag-burning, crossword puzzles, artwork and short stories. The editors seem willing to print most anything so long as it comes from inside, and if there are no superb talents here, there are interesting writers with points of view that are often neglected. (S-50)

□**CORVI CHRONICLE** Winter 1990 ($1 (?) from ASCAR, PO Box 44, Crowtown, KY 42445): The newsletter of the American Society of Crows and Ravens, a group which seems to combine ornithology with socializing. They report on meetings of members as well as crow news from across the country. It appears to be difficult to escape one you join; be wry when writing. (S-12t)

COUNTER INFORMATION #26 (Donation from Pigeonhole CI, c/o 11 Forth St., Edinburgh, UK): An anarchist zine that preaches and practices hardcore resistance to the system. The fight against the poll tax in the UK continues to fill their pages. They also print quite a bit of prison news and resistance notes from around the world. (T-4t)

THE COUPON BOOK #3 (50¢ from Weird Calendars, 616 165th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA 98008-4017): Collages made out of ad images and words clipped from headlines and ad copy. Some of the rearrangements are interesting, along the lines of making mass consumer culture look stupid. But it's a one-joke zine. (S-10)

□**CRITICAL MASS MAGAZINE** Vol. 1 #3 ($4.25 from Deborah Carlen, PO Box 81384, Atlanta, GA 30366-1384): A classy looking magazine of science fiction and fantasy which also reads well. Jack McDevitt's "Hard Landings" is another twist on the eternal time travel story, while M.R. Michaels presents a minor but amusing effort in the futuristic traffic story "Fender bender". The illustrations and production are unfailingly excellent as well. (S-36t)

CRITICAL WAVE #16 ($10 from Mary Burns, 23 Kensington Ct., Hampstead, NY 11550): A British Science Fiction news & reviews zine which covers pretty much all manifestations of the genre, from books and fanzines through parties and video productions. #16 includes several tributes to the late ATom, and a portfolioo of lovely fantasy art from Jim Porter. Mary is the US agent; in Australia, the cost is A$15 from Justin Ackroyd, GPO Box 2708X, Victoria 3001, while in Britain it's £5 from Critical Wave Publications, Steve Green, 33 Scott Road, Olton, Solihull, West Midlands, B92 7LQ. (A4-28r)

CROOKED ROADS Vol. 1 #2 ($2 from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): Carl's zine is designed for those who are living originally, with a strong undercurrent of radical Christianity. He publishes short fiction, poetry, fiery essays, social commentary, and interviews. Alfred Kisubi, a Ugandan expatriate poet, gets considerable space in this issue. (S-30t)

CRYONICS Vol. 11 #3-5 ($2.50 from ALCOR, 12327 Doherty St., Riverside, CA 92503): As far as I can tell, Alcor is one of the best (perhaps *the* best) organized groups practicing cryonic suspension today. They've weathered several legal battles and now have 13 members in suspension. This newsletter details their current status, reports on medical research and future plans, and in general is optimistic about beating death. #4 has much news of their latest equipment acquisitions and new policies and procedures. #5 has an article by Thomas Donaldson on the continuing advances towards conquering death itself. (HL-42t)

CRYSTAL NEWSLETTER Vol. 4 #1 (SASE (?) from Pacific Crystal Guild, PO Box 1371, Sausalito, CA 94966-1371): These folks track crystal fairs and crystal dealers all over the California area. They also have contact addresses for a couple of mail order dealers. Mostly a directory, rather than a home for articles. (S-4t)

CULTURAL SURVIVAL QUARTERLY Vol. 14 #2 ($4.50 from 11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138): Cultural Survival is a group working to protect indigenous peoples around the world from being exploited and exterminated. This slick magazine takes a look at various aspects of this struggle. This time around it's tourism, with a survey of new ideas on ethical tourism and what's being done in some places to rein in the tourist monster. (S-64t)

CULTWATCH RESPONSE Vol. 2 #3 ($2 from PO Box 1842, Colorado Springs, CO 80901-1842): A newsletter primarily aimed at law enforcement personnel being bombarded by lurid tales of Satanic crimes, which tries to sort out truth from fantasy. This issue reports on a ridiculously unconstitutional raid on the SF Bay area OTO, and tracks a few more bits of sensationalist stuff from the major media. (HL-12t)

C-VILLE REVIEW Vol. 2 #6 ($30/26 issues & a t-shirt from PO Box 565, Charlottesville, VA 22902): A community paper of arts, opinion, calendar listings and fun articles. This issue attempts to determine what the ugliest building in Charlottesville is, prints some less-than-insightful comments from a new appointee to the Board of the local university, and talks about "fitness fascism". (T-28t)

□**CYCLOP'S EYE** #1-6 ($1 from Lex Reibestein, PO Box 484, Piermont, NY 10968; if you write a check, make it to "Leslie Powell"): The organ of the Immortal Fantasy Foundation, a group dating back something like 20 years now. They're into movies, comics, science fiction, fantasy, and related topics. For $10, Lex will send you a special history package, with a complete run of **CYCLOP'S EYE**, an issue of **PROTEUS** (a 54-page genzine), catalogs, posters, and who knows what else. Instant fanhistory. (S-10)

DADDY #3 ($18/yr from Ganymede Press, Inc., PO Box 5325, Harrisburg, PA 17110-5325): A magazine for gay men who think of themselves as Daddies or Sons. They feature clear pictorials, erotic fiction, and explicit personal ads. They're also growing fast and apparently filling a real need in the gay community. Professional looking but with a friendly editorial presence. (D-80t)

□**THE DAILY BOLT** Vol. 1 #2 ($1 (?) from Box 1, 22 Capen Hall, SUNY at Buffalo, NY 14260): A paper of student opposition to the status quo at the State University of New York, although it's not always easy to tell what they're opposing. Mostly though they seem to be going after bureaucracy in the student government and administration, though communicating to the readers is taking a back seat to flashy writing. Or maybe I just don't get the in-jokes. (T-16t)

DAILY COW #4 (1/2 pint milk or 50¢ from David R. Wyder, 121 Gregory Ave. #B-7, Passaic, NJ 07055): All the humor and cow puns that OSHA will allow to be printed in one place. "Make Love Not Milk" is the cover story; inside there are bovine pinups, the flatulent earth, and ads for bull condoms. An alternate universe lurks in these pages. (S-18)

DANGEROUS TIMES #16 ($1.50 from Josh Petrin, 32 Chestnut Hill, Greenfield, MA 01301): A slice through the punk scene and elsewhere, with some music content but a lot of other stuff as well. The lead feature in this issue is an exchange of letters on whether one can fight fascism with fascism (Josh says no). There's an insert poster, a weird short story, a Dadata graphic, and plenty of ranting about what's wrong with society on all scales. (D-32r)

DANTE'S GAZETTE May/June 1990 ($2 from Jackie Campbell, 2930 N. 46th St. #107, Phoenix, AZ 85018): A journal aimed at jailhouse lawyers and *pro se* litigants who happen to be prisoners, edited by Calvin Murry who has some experience in this field. It looks at legal decisions of interest to prisoners, gives some suggestions on drafting and filing complaints, and has some hints on working with real lawyers for maximum return. (S-20)

□**DARE** Vol. 3 #10 ($20/yr from PO Box 40422, Nashville, TN 37204-0422): This is quite a success story—just two years old, statewide distribution, and 8100 readers for "Tennessee's Gay and Lesbian Newsweekly". They split their pages between local and national news, with some networking and entertainment pages as well. Discriminatory state laws, a murder and the harassment policy at Vanderbilt headline this issue. (T-20t)

□**DARK DIAMONDS** #2 ($3 from Andy C., 1 St. John's View, Boston Spa, Wetherby, West Yorkshire, LS23 6NQ, ENGLAND): A zine of essays, dressed up with some poetry and artwork as well. Andy writes about a diverse set of subjects: the greenhouse effect, the Watchmen graphic novel, electroshock therapy and syncretism in Christianity all get pages in this issue. He summarizes well, and gives sources for further reading in case you get interested in something. (A5-44r)

THE DAVID THOMAS ROBERTS BROADSIDE #2-3 (SASE from PO Box 5243, Kreole Sta., Moss Point, MI 39563): A one-man one-sheet litzine. In #2 Roberts takes us on a verbal trip through Arkansas in dense, dreamy prose. #3 is a collection of several short poems, including "There Is No Station", a poem about place or lack thereof. (S-2)

□**DAWN IS UGLY** ($1 from 5231 Eton Pl., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055): A zine with some idea of what it wants to do but a pretty sketchy execution this first time around. They look at animal rights, punk music, zines and social issues, but most of the content is reprinted from other zines and photocopied pretty lightly at that. I hope they develop more confidence and publish more original stuff in the future, since from the contents here they look like people I'd like to get to know better. (S-18)

□**D.B.D.T.D.** #2 ($2 (?) from 3911 St. Hubert. Montreal, Que., H2L 4A6, CANADA): A filmzine for folks who are there to watch women in peril and beyond—their title stands for "Dumb Bitch Deserves to Die", and pretty well sums up their disgusting attitude. Sections feature Karen Carpenter movies, Nurse movies, and a Linnea Quigley filmography filled with juvenile double entendres. (HL-20r)

D.C. #11-12 (Donation from Katrina Kelly, PO Box 557, 18 Taylor Ave., Earlville, NY 13332): The title of this one changes every time, which is OK since Katrina requests that you not use it on the envelope anyhow. #11 is **DEBAUCHED CANNUCKS**; #12 **DESICCATED CARBURETOR**. Either way, they have graffiti, silly stories, strange wish lists (get your "What I want for Katrina's Birthday" list in now) and a selection of other silly text. (S-6)

DECALCOMANIA #73-74 ($1.25 from Mark Strickert, 3852 N. Oconto, Chicago, IL 60634): A club newsletter for people who collect radio station stickers, bits of taped broadcast days, and other items. They report on which stations have what out, keep an eye on new stations, and generally discuss their hobby. (S-12r)

THE DEFENSE MONITOR Vol. XIX #1-2 ($1 from Center for Defense Information, 1500 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005): Defense and military analyses form folks who are part of the Establishment but disagree with current policy and call for an effective but much less expensive approach to defense. #1 is devoted to explaining why a ban on antisatellite weapons would be in our interest despite the Bush administration's lack of interest. #2 suggests bringing the troops home from Korea. (S-8t)

□**DELIRIUM** Vol. 1 #1 ($4 from Frank L. Nicholson, PO Box 7814, Riverside, CA 92503): Even though Frank is publishing this litmag, the editor is Judith Shannon Paine, and manuscripts should be sent to her at Route One, Box Seven-X, Harrison, ID 83833. The first issue opens strangely with a self-referential story by Cliff Burns, and gets a lot stranger later with John Ernest Sjoblom's "The Problem with Subleasing From Argon". George Muggwart and Richard Willmarth are among the poets here. I'm not sure I like the bold-print format, but it is certainly distinctive. (D-28t)

DEMETER'S EMERALD March-Beltane 1990 ($2 from PO Box 612603, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95761): A reader-written pagan zine which is mostly directed towards birth and parenting for pagan couples. The Beltane issue includes advice on preparing to breastfeed and on intimate homebirths, all the way through to rites of passage for teens of either sex. Lots of networking ads in the back too. (D-40r)

DE NAR #42 (IRCs from Postbus 104, 1210 Brussel 21, BELGIUM): A small zine of reviews, mainly of European small press, written in Dutch. It comes out regularly, and reluctantly passes unread to my files just as regularly. (D-16r)

DEPROGRAM #4 (50¢ in stamps from PO Box 4542, Seattle, WA 98104): A medley of art and text from somewhere on the margins of society. There are bits of anarchy in here, confused texts, Greenpeace, washing oily birds, newspaper clippings, and stupid politicians. It's slathered on to the page in thick overlapping layers, making for a somewhat difficult reading experience. (HL-16r)

DEVACHAN Vol. 1 #2 ($4 from Lynne Parcells, 1310 Sussex, Portage, MI 49002-2625): This one gets classier looking all the time—which may not be entirely good; it even makes the letter writers sound rational at times. Associated with MENSA, this is a freewheeling outlet for stories and essays. Fred Schantz comes up with admittedly quacky advice about food, Bailey Hankins displays some of his hate mail, and Neal Wilgus confuses with "Old Mother Eris At the Archetypes Ball". From clever to confounding. (HL-67t)

DIALOGUE #83 ($5/yr from PO Box 71221, New Orleans, LA 70172): A zine of peace, social justice, and anarchy, centered on the New Orleans area (and containing an excellent community calendar) but of interest to activists everywhere. In this issue they present some views on the abortion debate, the latest round of news about nuclear resistance arrests, and a depressing story on police brutality in New Orleans. (HL-20r)

DIARISTS'S JOURNAL #28-30 ($12/yr from 102 W. Water St., Lansford, PA 18232): A tabloid for and by people who write diaries. They run the occasional critical article—as with a look at a particular Civil War diary in #28—but the bulk of this is excerpts from contemporary diaries written by just plain folks. Topics tend to be less than earthshaking—power mowers, travel, quitting smoking, the fine feeling of a spring day—but nonetheless provide interesting glimpses into real lives. (T-20t)

□**DIDACTIC ASSHOLE** #1 ($1 from 4044 18th St., San Francisco, CA 94114): I suspect I am missing a large proportion of in-jokes here. For what it's worth, the main feature in this zine is David Nudelman, "czar of the San Mateo folk music scene." There's an interview, various cartoons, and other nonsense, all in somewhat questionable taste. The question of homophobia is often raised, but it's hard to tell whether they're for or against it. (HL-20)

DIE FAT PIGGY DIE!! #2-4 (50¢ from PO Box 134, Waynesville, MO 65583): A medley of art and punk culture and a bit of music, shamelessly copied from publications both over and underground. #3 at least is all original (and rather deranged) drawings by the enigmatic Billy Spicer. (D-12)

DIRECTORY OF LIBERTARIAN PERIODICALS #7 ($3 from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): A straightforward bit of reference material. Jim does the best job I know of tracking and cataloging libertarian periodicals in the US (he refers readers to Libertarian International for overseas coverage). Price, address, and a brief description are given for each one. (S-9r)

DISCOMBOBULATION #4 ($1 from John Ling Jr., PO Box 2391, Montgomery, AL 36102-2391): A collection of obtuse comics, obscure texts, and general silliness. Topics range from what happens when you don't pay the gravity bill to what's hot and what's not. This issue adds some skate content and pictures of unusual anatomical teaching aids. (HL-32)

DISCUSSION BULLETIN #40-41 ($3/6 issues from PO Box 1564, Grand Rapids, MI 49501): An open forum for discussion of socialism and DeLeonism—and, lately, anarchism, although there's always been some anarcho-syndicalist presence here. If that confuses you than this is probably not a periodical for you, since even finer distinctions are routinely made in its pages. Anyhow, it varies between serious historical writing and current mudslinging, and I enjoy reading at least chunks of it. (HL-24r)

☐**DISTORTED VISIONS** #1 (25¢ & a stamp from W.A. Thompson, 204 Sunrise Ave., Smithfield, NC 27577): A mini without much content. This first issue has an interview withSal Minella, the lead for Chicken Catchatory, a short story (well, more of a short incident) a map showing where Smithfield is and a small collage. (M-8)

DOOR NO. 3 Vol. 2 #1 ($8/4 issues from PO Box 598, Brookline, MA 02146): A mostly-literary tabloid that always has a few surprises. Fun stuff in #1 includes a comic poking fun at those Visa ads where the friendly operator hands out tons of credit over the phone, a survey of Boston-area recycling activities, and Stewart David Ikeda's short story "How a Bear Likes Hunny". They've got movie reviews, poetry, television and a centerspread of art too. (T-16t)

THE DOVETAIL Vol. 4 #4 (Contact Vern Bodkin, c/o Azalea House, 30 Mariner St., Buffalo, NY 14201): A collaborative project of the WNY Peace Center, the Latin American Solidarity Committee and the Buffalo Greens, **DOVETAIL** is getting some community dialogues going on various peace and social justice issues. #4 run from the Panama invasion to the situation in Palestine, with a strong letters column and a local calendar of events. (HL-16t)

DRAFT NOtices Vol. 11 #2 ($10/yr from COMD, PO Box 15195, San Diego, CA 92115): This group stands opposed not just to the draft but to militarism in general within our society. They've been consistently the best—in fact, just about the only—source of news on the national service bills working their way through Congress. This issue also takes a long look at the military impact on the environment. (S-12)

DRANG DEN Vol. 1 #2 ($2 (?) from Karma Thegsum Choling, 637 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12206): A tabloid paper from our local Tibetan Buddhist meditation and study center. The contents are a mix of news about Buddhist retreats and centers all over the place and articles on the teachings themselves. In this issue, Jeanne Matthewson contributes a series on "Taming the Mind". (T-24t)

THE DROOD REVIEW OF MYSTERY Vol. X #2-4 ($20/12 issues from PO Box 8872, Boston, MA 02114): A review magazine which concentrates on contemporary mysteries. #2 is their annual Spring preview issue, with a checklist of forthcoming titles in addition to the usual reviews. #2 has the sad news of Black Lizard's demise and the nominees for this year's Edgar Awards. (S-20t)

DUMARS REVIEWS #7 ($2 from Terata Publications, PO Box 810. Hawthorne, CA 90251): A review zine which concentrates on the fantastic, broadly defined, in many genres: from zines to books to TV to movies to restaurants. Denise Dumars and her cohorts have sensible opinions and defend them well, and I always find a few intriguing items from the small press and the mainstream here. Please note: they do not trade with nor review unsolicited items. (D-32)

DUMPSTER TIMES #5 ($1 from Wendy S. Duke, PO Box 80083, Akron, OH 44308): A collection of art and culture from the underground. #5 has a list of new isms, a White Boy pamphlet, Art Strike and Sabotage news, and so on. Short fiction and visual art oozes in the cracks between these more ideological things. (HL-20r)

THE DUPLEX PLANET #106 ($1.50 from David Greenberger, PO Box 1230, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866): Interviews with various elderly people conducted in the Boston and Schenectady areas. What makes them special is the questions David asks: "What's the best number of teeth to have?" or "What's the greatest invention?" for example, both from this issue. A perennial favorite. (D-16)

☐**EARTH BURGER** #1 ($1 *CASH* from Brie, 1705 Glenmore, Libertyville, IL 60048): A selection of "Beat-nick" depressing and surreal poetry, illustrations, environmentalism and more. They feature hand-colored covers, an alternative pen-pal page, and a strange but attractive sense of humor. (D-16)

☐**EARTHTIME** ($2 or The Usual from Nina Bogin, 88 Seaman Ave. #5E, New York, NY 10034): A personalzine consisting of Nina's illustrated diary excerpts. This includes a report of a dance convention, some social activism in various context, and hanging around with other SF fen. I find it fun reading, but then I know Nina from way back. (S-6)

☐**ECHANGES** #61-62(40f./yr from Echanges et Mouvement, BM Box 91, London WC1N 3XX, UK): The stark dot-matrix print of this magazine gives it a sense of urgency. Concerned primarily with political movements and actions around the world, this magazine divides its reviews and few articles under headings by nation. Obviously left-leaning, **ECHANGES** is most interested in radical groups and strikes by labor unions. As a reference source, it's insufficient, since it doesn't list prices for any of the items reviewed. (A5-72)

ECOMEDIA BULLETIN #71-75 ($15/26 issues from PO Box 915, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT, M4Y 2N9, CANADA): A collection of news stories written from an anarchist point of view. #71 reports on more police brutality in Toronto and has articles on the intifada and Nelson Mandela. #73 summarizes the current wave of poll tax resistance in Great Britain. #75 reports on a relatively visible squatters' group in Vancouver. (HL-4t)

ECOSOCIALIST REVIEW Vol. 4 #1 ($8/yr [no cash] from Chicago DSA, 1608 N. Milwaukee 4th Fl., Chicago, IL 60647): Formerly **FDSA GREEN NEWS**, this is put out by people in the Democratic Socialists of America who find ecological ideas very congenial to their political ones. In this issue Arnie Chien explores why environmental activists should be socialists, while Dom Amter makes an ecological argument for socialism itself. (S-16t)

ECOSPIRIT Vol. VI #1 (Donation from Institute for Ecosophical Studies c/o Donald P. St. John, Moravian College, Bethlehem, PA 18018): A newsletter where ecology meets philosophy. This issue is mainly dedicated to discussion of the UN's "World Charter for Nature", which was adapted by the General Assembly and is reprinted here. (S-8t)

☐**THE ECPHORIZER** #76 ($1 from 481 Century Dr., Campbell, CA 95008): "A Mensa Magazine of Lierature and Ideas" which ranges all over the intellectual map, without any particular focus. In this issue you can choose from fiction both realistic and fantastic, as well as essays on education, coupons, or traveling in England. (HL-36t)

☐**EDGE CITY VIEW** Vol. 1 #1 (SASE from Mack White, PO Box 49575, Austin, TX 78765): A zine of essays and artwork—a full-page fractal pattern graces this issue—the bounces off of current events. The opening salvos here discuss television addiction and the disappearance of privacy. There's also a summary of the theories about the conspiracy to kill John Lennon that have been floating around for a while. A good start. (HL-8t)

EFFIGY: THE BURNING TIMES #2 (Donation from 1803 Mission St. #172, Santa Cruz, CA 95060): This one is mostly made up of mainstream press reprints on various radical actions—but much of the news was new to me. It includes Earth First! stuff (including evidence that the FBI deliberately went after Foreman for political reasons), animal liberation, Earth Day activism, and so on. (A-24t)

☐**EGGROLL** "#7,8 or 9" ($2/3 issues from Wayne Wolbert, 6323 Cherrywood #2, Portage, MI 49002): This has the feel of being a high school paper, replete with injokes. It prints come comics, some role-playing game reviews, and more confusing stuff. (I don't understand the F.Y.S.H.H.E.A.D.S. and I'm not sure I want to). Perhaps the least esoteric thing here si the news on the possible Watchmen movie. (S-12)

HOWDEE!
?
CASTING MINNIE PEARL BEFORE SWINE

ELDRITCH SCIENCE Dec. 1989 ($10/4 issues from George Phillies, 87-6 Park Ave., Worcester, MA 01605): A SF and fantasy zine which specializes in longish stories (7-15,000 words is what their guidelines calls for). A couple of the entries this time fell flat for me, but the whole was redeemed by Rupert Fitzmont Cabot IV's "Who Slays Satan", which wove quite a tale of the fantastic despite some clumsy writing in spots. (S-44t)

THE EMERALD PATH #7 ($20/12 issues from GreenSheep, PO Box 1353, Placentia, CA 92670): This pagan journal has just shifted to a bimonthly schedule, but plans to continue all the same features. Mostly they are running serialized teaching columns, on subjects including Tarot, astrology, and channeling. A few book reviews (which tend to go beyond the usual New Age topics) some poetry and feature articles (laying on hands in this issue)_ round out the package. (S-12t)

ENCHANTÉ #5 ($3 from John Yohalem, 30 Charlton St. #6F, New York, NY 10014): A pagan zine which always manages to surprise me at least once; this issue, they did it with a do-it-yourself article on building stone circles (similar to Stonehenge). There are pages of soap opera and hymns, as well as more intellectual articles—eluki bes shahar examines gods and sacrificing in this issue. (D-28t)

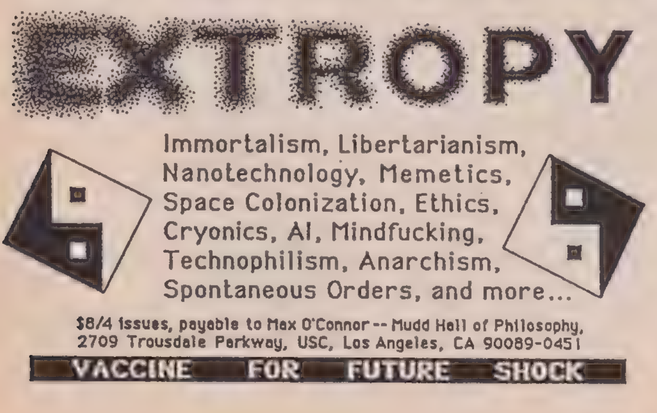
ERASER CARVERS QUARTERLY #2 ($2 from Mick Mather, 205 Myron Rd., Syracuse, NY 13219-1225): For folks who are so taken with rubber stamps that they make their own out of erasers. There are plenty of examples here, separated by a few words on technique and contacts. Pat Pitingolo even contributed hand-colored stampings to all 150 copies. (D-12)

EROSPIRIT Vol. 5 #1-2 ($24/6 issues from PO Box 35160, Albuquerque, NM 87176): I never know what to expect from this New Age journal, but I always know it'll be new and different. In #1, editor Julian Spalding has discovered that there are a lot of crooks and liars and illusions in the New Age movement, and resolves to face them without flinching. #2 continues the anti-New Age backlash, but also returns to the perennial theme of healing the earth. Who knows what will happen next? (S-16)

THE ESSEMIAN WAY Vol. 10 #1 ($7 from SMC, PO Box 1407, San Francisco, CA 94101): The Service of Mankind Church is a spiritual group that melds submission on the part of males with manifestations of Goddess worship in the here and now (They have an excellent editorial in this issue exploring some of the connections). In the pursuit of this, they delve into the history of Amazons, instructions on how to be truly submissive (no hanging on to that money market account, guys), and look at sympathetic fiction. A high-class publication. (S-32t)

ETHEL THE AARDVARK #9 (A$12/yr from MSFC, PO Box 212, World Trade Centre, Melbourne, Victoria 3005, AUSTRALIA): A SF zine from the Melbourne Science Fiction Club. They concentrate rather heavily on books and conventions—none of this newfangled media stuff for them. The description of faanish olympics events in this issue is quite amusing. (A4-20t)

EULIPIAN #6 ($3 *CASH* from PO Box 61387, Seattle, WA 98121): An attractive arty experimental litmag that turns the computer look into a feature. This issue comes in two sections. The first features a host of swamis pontificating and being analyzed in surreal fashion. The second is oversized, with lovely colorful photocopying, vast layouts, and scintillating stories. Fun and puzzling. (D-12t & O-20t)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$8/4 issues, payable to Max O'Connor -- Mudd Hall of Philosophy, 2709 Trousdale Parkway, USC, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0451

VACCINE FOR FUTURE SHOCK

EUROPEAN TRASH CINEMA #8-9/10 ($6/12 issues from Craig Ledbetter, PO Box 5367, Kingwood, TX 77325): The only fanzine I know devoted exclusively to European import B-movies. Craig does everything from Italian westerns to Polish outlaw movies, with the help of other folks who are similarly inclined. The special issue 9/10 is devoted entirely to a forum on "Death Laid An Egg", with views from a number of important underground movie folks. (D-8r)

THE EVENT #33 ($5 from PO Box 203, Pequannock, NJ 07440): There are naturists—people who believe that clothes ought to be optional—everywhere, and the Eastern seabord is no exception. This magazine is for them, and it reports on social trends and legal cases as well as resorts and other activities which can be enjoyed in the nude. Plenty of photos are here, but cheesecake is absent; it's just people enjoying nature and their bodies. (S-36t)

EVERYONE'S BACKYARD Vol.8 #2 ($25/yr from CCHW, PO Box 926, Arlington, VA 22216): The Citizens Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes is still going strong; they help activists in all fifty states fight dangerous solutions to waste problems. Legal and grassroots organizing issues are their strongest point. They also have a sense of humor; this issue reprints an internal Union Carbide memo accusing them of being Commies. (S-36t)

EVERYTHING IS SAY IS A LIE #2 (SASE from Christopher B. martin, Route 1 Box 373, Charlottesville, VA 22901-9605): A selection of aphorisms, snide remarks, and general wisdom. Chris writes like a guru who is mighty peeved with his disciples, and you'd have to be a complete idiot to follow all the commands here. But then, there are a lot of complete idiots in the world. (S-2t)

EVERYTHING LIBERATION FRONT #2 (50¢ from 4930 Pershing, St. Louis, MO 63108): A small zine of anarchist ranting and raving, with side trips into the Art Strike, poetry of resistance, and ideas on changing the world. They'll also sell you an "I Don't Eat At MacDonalds" button for 75¢. (D-12)

□**EXPAT WORLD** Vol. 2 #4-5 ($38/yr from PO Box 1341, Raffles City, Singapore 9117): A newsletter for people living and working outside of their home country, whether their postings are in Arabia, Italy or the Far East. Directed primarily at an American audience, it discusses financial and tax planning, good eating in Rome, how to keep an expatriate family together, and how to acquire a second passport. (S-34)

EXTRA! Vol. 3 #3 ($3.50 from FAIR, 175 Fifth Ave. #2245, New York, NY 10010): A publication which analyzes the news coverage of the networks and the major newspapers in this country. #3 documents the New York TIMES' callous attitude towards the homeless, ruminates on the Andy Rooney flap, and discusses recent news coverage and non-coverage of the CIA. Generally pretty liberal. (S-16t)

EXTRAORDINARY SCIENCE Vol. II #1 ($20/4 issues from High Energy Enterprises, PO Box 5636, Security, CO 80931): A journal of research into the fringes of science, from the more or less respectable to the frankly incredible. They're into Tesla research, scalar electromagnetic waves, hydrogen research, cancer research, and a bunch of other topics. They also sell all sorts of books on these and related topics, and will probably send you a catalog for a buck or two. (S-40t)

EXTROPY #5 ($2 from Max O'Connor, c/o Mudd Hall of Philosophy, USC, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0451): A magazine for folks interested in a better brighter future, of freedom and nanotechnology and life extension and better drugs and other groovy things. This time around much of the magazine is devoted to anarchy, with some novel philosophical perspectives on the state. Gregory Benford contributes some notes on an evening with Stephen Hawking, John Hospers drops by to argue about aesthetics, and a good time is had by all. (HL-51t)

□**FAAS REPORT** Mar./Apr. 1990 ($12.50/yr from Sally Van Camp, 923 Wadsworth St., Syracuse, NY 13208): The acronym here stands for Federation of American Aquarium Societies, proving once again that there's a fanzine for everything. They concern them selves with regulations imposed on the pet fish industry, the publication of an attractive aquarium newsletter, awards for aquariasts, and so on. (S-32)

FACADE' #1-3 ($1 (?) from Wiley Piter, 1471 Moore St. #5, Bellingham, WA 98226): A small slice of the scene in Bellingham and beyond. In #1 Wiley prints everything from Earth First! info to notes on a street encounter with an aggressive punk./poser gal.

There's a play about the young Jesus and a report on Chinese democracy, plus plenty of art swiped from diverse sources. #3 has some zine reviews, SubGenius, and a comic of brotherly hate. (S-10)

□**FANTACON MAGAZINE** 1989 ($5 (?) from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): In addition to their publishing ventures, Fantaco hosts Fantacon (makes sense, doesn't it?) and so this slick mag is their annual program. This time around they profile such fine folks from the bizarre side of things as Eastman and Laird (the Ninja Turtles guys), Gahan Wilson, and Tony Timpone. They also mention upcoming publishing projects and print lots of graphics. (S-48t)

THE FANTASY COLLECTOR #214-217 ($2 from Caz, 7080 Highland Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70808): A zine for collectors and readers of pulp-era SF, fantasy and related genres. Besides ads from those wishing to buy, sell or trade, they feature spiffy original covers, articles on collecting and on other zines worth dabbling in, and reprinted pulp fiction,. #217, for example, has a reprint of A. Connell's "Dream's End" from the Gernsback-edited **WONDER STORIES** from December 1935. (S-12)

FANTASY COMMENTATOR Vol 6 #4 ($4 from A.L. Searles, 48 Highland Cir., Bronxville, NY 10708): An academic-sounding zine of science fiction publishing research with contributions from many who were active in the early days of the prozines. In this issue we have a look at the stories of T.S. Stribling, another at the correspondence between Hugo Gernsback and HG Wells, plus an installment of Sam Moskowitz's history of early SF. Reviews of important books and some SF verse are also included. (S-68)

FANTASY FEDERATION Vol. 1 #4 ($1 from Jeff Cohen, 50 Shelley Ln., Great Neck, NY 11023): A wrestling zine which takes pro wrestling to its logical conclusion: instead of writing about matches others have choreographed, they write about matches of their own imagining. This issue, for example, features a climactic battle between Hulk Hogan and Ric Flair. Complete with photos and transcripts of the announcers' commentary. (S-8r)

FATAL VISIONS #7 (2 IRCs for info from PO Box 133, Northcote, 3070, Victoria, AUSTRALIA): A very well-done Australian zine of video and cinema movies (plus associated stuff like books and zines). They do a nice spread of reviews in this issue on teen teaching films about drugs, driving, and sex. There's also extensive for *The Honeymoon Killers* and a report aimed at visitors to New York City, as well as lots and lots of reviews. (A4-28t)

FENRIR Vol. II #1 ($5 from Brekekk, PO Box 109, Newport, Gwent NP6 1XZ, UK): A journal of Satanism and left-hand thought in general. Almost all of this issue is devoted to ritual, with several rituals including an invocation of the Anti-Christ being given in full. It's full of esoteric sigils, obscure chants, high theatre, and so on. (A4-22)

FERTILE LA TOYAH JACKSON Paris Issue ($4 from 7850 Sunset Blvd. Penthouse Suite 110, Los Angeles, CA 90046): A magazine by an perhaps primarily for black teenage drag queens, notably Ms. jackson himerself. There's outrageous sexual gossip, travelogue notes, music and fashion personalities, Hollywood campiness, and plenty of photos. Ver, very different. (S-48r)

FIELD TRIP #4 ($2 from Paul Rydeen, VIVO, PO Box 207, Fort Lyon, CO 81038-0207): A collection of kooks and personal essays. This issue extends Paul's list of weird religious groups, from the Arglebargle people to the various OTOs out there. There's also essays and rants about things like freaks and the construction of the universe. Paul recently sent a reprint of #3, available for $2 to those who tried to order the earlier edition and found it sold out. (S-14)

FIFTH ESTATE Spring 1990 (SASE from PO Box 02548, Detroit, MI 48202): A special mini-issue put out for Earth Day. As anyone familiar with this anarchist paper should expect, they're in the critical camp, with an article about why Earth Day 1990 is mostly hype rather than a serious change agent and another examining the problems with treating recycling as "the solution". Thoughtful and worth reading. (T-8t)

FIGMENT #3 ($3.95 from PO Box 3566, Moscow, ID 83843-0477): A small litmag which moves around the various fantastic genres, with perhaps a slight slant towards SF. In this issue Dean Wesley Smith's "Model Marriage" is a delicious tale of horror, while John Moore's "A Match on the Moon" has a certain Golden Era charm to it. There's also several columns looking at the publishing business, poetry, and nice artwork. (D-60t)

□**THE FIJACTIVIST** #3 (Donation from PO Box 59, Helmville, MT 59843): For supporters of the Fully Informed Jury Amendment, whose purpose it is to tell jurors that they have the right and power to acquit even contrary to the law. The proponents want judges to instruct jurors on this power, and have got campaigns going to amend the constitutions or pass legislation in 22 states to reach this goal. A growing movement for freedom. (T-12t)

FILMCLIPS #6 ($2 from PO Box 1335, New York, NY 10013): A zine for folks who collect movie and related items, with a growing number of ads from those who have such things for sale. These range from spaceship models to posters to animation cels. They also publish feature articles on various movie people and clubs. (S-20t)

□**A FISTFUL OF CREDITS** Vol. I #4-Vol. II #1 ($1 from Robyn Russell, PO Box 84395, Fairbanks, AK 99708): A Star Trek clubzine, probably mostly of interest either to those in the Fairbanks area or those already deeply involved in ST fandom. They report on the doings of local club members, print some stuff on new shows, and look at the wider scope of fandom just a bit. (S-10)

FLAMING SIN #5-6 (50¢ from 571 Potomac Ave., Buffalo, NY 14222): A medley of clippings from both the mainstream and the tabloid press, with an emphasis on crazy fringe religions and fundies. You've got bits of Chick comics, tough love, teens doing drugs and mutilating themselves, Satan worship, and who knows what else to peer at in this package. #5 included a booklet of short stories from the somewhat deranged Norman Q. Trevelle. (S-10t)

□**FLESHYFOLDS** #1 (85¢ postage from DES Jr., 18005 Geraci Rd., Lutz, FL 33549): A zine of music and other stuff. In the premiere issue we have interviews with Genitorturers and Mean Booper, a portfolio of photos of Jennie Lee and her mammoth mammaries, and a serial killer crossword puzzle. There's also some comics and an article on autoerotic asphyxiation. (S-22r)

FLY Vol. 2 #6-7 ($1 for a selection from PO Box 5554, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1N7, CANADA): A literary journal produced as a series of postcards, sometimes wandering close to the mail art interface, sometimes more linear. #6 continues the story of Stan and Joe, arguing about hands and toes and fighting. #7 investigates DNA, time, and evolution...and flies. (M-2t)

F.O.C. REVIEW Vol. 3 #2 ($5 from PO Box 101, Worth, IL 60482): A quiet literary quarterly, not flashy, but with some good work. Robert N. Georgalas has an interesting but downbeat cryonics story in this issue, John Nerone portrays a man losing touch with the people around him in "They're Everywhere", and James Gawron delivers solid poetry with "The Border Town". (D-48t)

□**F.O.D.** #1 ($3 from Gary R. Johnson, c/o Urania 235, PO Box 136, Stn. P, Toronto, ONT, M5S 2S7, CANADA): An intense and incredible anarchist/discordian/punk trip through some odd corners of the universe. They publish detailed cartoons, wander off towards Satanism, review some new music, and generally seem to stir things up. My copy came with stickers, a poster, some mini tracts, and other goodies. Psychedelic psychic disturbances. (S-36)

□**FOETUS ACID** #5 ($2.50 from 6107 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90038): A collection of bizarre art and other goodies. They have lyrics to Weathermen songs, the Bush-CIA-cocaine connection, Baboon Dooley, raw porno, revised advertisements, collage, and who knows what else. A rapid-fire trip through the chaos of modern culture. (S-40)

FOLK ART MESSENGER Vol. 3 #3 ($20/yr from Folk Art Society, PO Box 17041, Richmond, VA 23226): A slick newsletter devoted to folk (as opposed to fine) art. They are very concerned with the relation between this art, museums, galleries and big business, and have several articles on the subject in the issue at hand. There are also of course pictures of art and chats with the artists. A serious pursuit. (S-12t)

□**FOOD IRRADIATION ALERT!** #15 ($25/yr from NCSFI, PO Box 59-0488, San Francisco, CA 94159): The National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation is fighting hard against the government and nuke industry's plans to sterilize food with radiation. Besides the questions about whether the food itself is safe with new compounds formed in it by the process, it's already led to massive contamination with radioactive cesium. Worth supporting, at least in my opinion. (S-8t)

FOSFAX #148 ($2 from FOSFA, PO Box 37281, Louisville, KY

40233-7281): A letter column with an SF zine attached, or so it seems at times. The freewheeling discussion between fans and pros remains the most fascinating part of the zine, though it only narrowly edges out the book reviews. There's also con reports and even the occasional science article in this one. (S-48r)

FRACTAL REPORT #8 ($23/6 issues from J. de Rivaz, c/o Reeves Telecommunications, West Towan House, Porthtowan, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 8AX, UK): A collection of computer programs for making fractal images and images made by the program. They take off from the Mandelbrot Set and Julia Sets for more esoteric realms, changing parameters and dimensions along the way. It's a pity they can't afford color printing, but the b& w pictures are striking enough and they tell you how to make your own. (A4-20t)

FREEDOM NETWORK NEWS #26 ($20/yr from ISIL, 1800 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102): The International Society for Individual Liberty is a group that tracks the Libertarian movement all over the world. Peru's elections and Columbia's drug wars are two of the topics in this issue, among many short news bits. For $2.45 you can also get the new edition of their **INDEX ON LIBERTY**, a guide to groups and publications worldwide. (S-16t)

THE FREEDOM WRITER Vol. VII #2 ($20/yr from Simon, Porteous & Associates, PO Box 589, Great Barrington, MA 01230): A newsletter of church and state issues, concerned when either interferes too much with the other. This issue, for example, worries both about the recent Supreme Court decision allowing states to forbid the religious use of peyote and a school principal who allows Gideon Bible distribution in the halls while keeping other religious texts out. (S-4t)

FREE PRESS NETWORK Vol. 9 #1-2 ($20/yr from SPA, PO Box 15548, Columbus, OH 43215): The Free Press Association is a group of working journalists concerned with fighting hard to preserve first amendment rights. They give out the annual Mencken Awards, sponsor conferences, and are getting increasingly visible on the American media scene. Generally libertarian in outlook, they defend the rights of speech both usual and unusual. (S-8t)

FREEZINE Vol. 2 #3 (Donation from PO Box 1465, Tory, NY 12180): A local anarchist zine centered in the RPI community and tending towards essays rather than news. I find it exciting and provocative. Highlights of #3 are Ed D'Angelo's "Anarchism and the War on Drugs", a page or two of thoughts from David Wieck, and John Schumacher's exploration of the meaning that chaos theory may have for anarchy. (S-12t)

□**FRIGHTEN THE HORSES** #1 ($4 from Heat Seeking Publishing, 41 Sutter St. #1108, San Francisco, CA 94104): A new zine of sex writing which says quite clearly "this is fantasy" and then worries no more about being politically correct. The stories here are a mass of straight, gay and bi- sex, with various things that most people find unsavory (like water sports) thrown in for flavor. There's also a section of news, from AIDS to censorship to abortion rights, and a few pages of zine reviews. A strong and hot first issue. (S-48t)

FRISKY MUTANT DISCO BALLS #2 (Donation from Julie Jared, Steam Sawmill Hill, Sherburne, NY 13460): A zine of tackiness and strange disjointed writing. Julie collages together old pictures and new writing, tells the stories of bizarre people, and tucks little surprises in with the zine. There's a centerfold of baby dolls and a plastic coathanger here for me. (D-8)

FROM THE MOUNTAIN Mar./Apr. 1990 (Donation from PO Box 488, Byron, MI 48418): A white racist publication with links to various Klan and Order groups of one sort or another. It's written in a short, snappy style, and maintains a lot of prison contacts. (This issue reprints a letter from one such rejecting their mailing). They have plenty of bad things to say about anyone non-white plus the US government. (S-28)

FTT #9 (The Usual from Judith Hanna and Joseph Nicholas, 5A Frinton Road, Stamford Hill, London N15 6NH, UK): Formerly **FUCK THE TORIES**, but as the title is intended to change every issue (it's **FLATTEN THE TOADS** in this issue), initials seem safest for my sanity. Judith and Joseph put out a classy SF fanzine, by which I mean that do not always discuss either SF or fandom, but write well about a variety of subjects. The prize in this issue is Judith's article on zines, feminism, censorship and sundry related topics. I don't agree with everything she said, but I certainly endorse grappling with these issue. Roman Orszanski drops in with a strange piece about cane toads as well. (A4-25)

FUCK THIS FOR A GAME OF SOLDIERS #2 (35p. from Paul, 46 Leatham Park Road, Purston, Pontefract, W. Yorks, WF7 5DT, ENGLAND): A rather foul-mouthed humor zine that takes the news and screws around with it. This leads to altered comics and interviews with famous people, including Michael Jackson and Margaret Thatcher. The latter ends rather bloodily, I'm afraid. (A4-12)

FUNNY PAGES #4-5 ($5/5 issues from PO Box 317025, Dayton, OH 45431): A collection of jokes and rude humor—racist, sexist, tasteless, ethnic, you name it. There should be something in each issue to offend just about everyone, as well as a few gags you can retell in polite company. No doubt this will be a big hit. (S-10)

FUSE Vol. XIII #4 ($15/5 issues from Main Fl., 183 Bathurst St., Toronto, ONT, M5T 9Z9, CANADA): A wide-ranging magazine anchored in the visual arts in Canada but with explicit sensitivity to feminist and political issues. This issue, for example, includes "A Response to the Montreal Killings" by Marusia Bociurkiw, a review of a women's video festival, other short reviews, and "The Troubled Topography of the Postmodern Body". (S-56t)

□**GAG SPECIAL** #1 ($1.50 from Jeff Zinger, 541 Devonshire Ave., Woodstock, ONT, N4S 5P9, CANADA): Jeff rambles on about wrestling, women (in a sometimes rather crude and sexist way), porno flicks, and who knows what else. It's held together by the wrestling but liable to leap off in a new direction at any moment. There's also a back issue set of (non-special) GAGs available for $10. (S-8)

□**GAIA PASSAGE** Vol. 1 #1 ($12/4 issues from Marcus L. Endicott, Cullowhee, NC 28723-2589): Marcus is the author of **VAGABOND GLOBETROTTING**, a book for people traveling the world on the cheap. This newsletter continues passing on resources and ideas for the basic traveler. It's got a cheap airfare place, newsletters, international events, and a bit of writing on his own travels. (S-4)

THE GAINESVILLE IGUANA Vol. 4 #7 ($5-$10/yr from Iguana c/o CISPLA, PO Box 14712, Gainesville, FL 32604): A local activist publication featuring a nice calendar and a directory of groups in the area. They report on both local activism and national issues—this time the CIA in Nicaragua, the Panamanian invasion, and the destruction of conservationist farming all get their share of attention. (S-16t)

□**GANGERS MOGAZINE** #2 ($25/yr from World of Mo, 11962 Maxwell Hill Rd., Littleton, CO 80127): I don't think I've got this one figured out yet. It's sort of an illustrated children's story, with more art than most litzines and less than most comics. The world in which the major parts are set seems to feature full rights for animals and discrimination against humans. They're still in the process of introducing characters. Fun and well-drawn, but confusing. (S-38t)

□**GAUNTLET** Premier Issue ($8.95 from 309 Powell Rd., Springfield, PA 19064): A fat new journal devoted to exploring censorship, which even invites a few pro-censorship voices to appear (though they're vastly outnumbered by the free speech fanatics). One of the best pieces here reports on the tribulations of publishing **EIDOS**, an explicit magazine for women. Ray Bradbury discusses attempts made to censor his fiction, while Ray Garton discusses a chapter sliced from his **CRUCIFAX** (reprinted here). A very fine production, and one which will make many people think that perhaps there should be some limits. (I still don't). (S-112t)

GAWK #4 ($1 from PO Box 31431, San Francisco, CA 94131): The newsletter of the Gay Artists and Writers Kollective, as held together by Humble Editor Tom Shearer, whose clever marginal notes lend a lot of character to the zine. This issue includes an excerpt from a forthcoming (hopefully) work by Daniel Curzon, a Captain Condom comic, notes on the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society, and other goodies. (S-10t)

GAY COMMUNITY NEWS Vol. 17 #35-42 ($39/yr from 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116): A wide-ranging magazine for the gay and lesbian communities, with plenty of material of interest to anyone who cares about civil rights as well. They're keenly interested in social issues; #38 contains the latest on abortion in the courts and an excellent overview of war tax resistance. But the fun is here too, with #37 opening with a hilarious April Fool's parody of their own format. (T-16t)

GEGENSCHEIN #57 (The Usual from Eric Lindsay, 6 Hillcrest Ave., Faulconbridge, NSW 2776, AUSTRALIA): It's been quite a while since Eric put out an issue of this SF personalzine, and indeed this one summarized about two years of his life hacking about with computers and mucking about in houses. He also reviews a slew of books, proving that he still reads the stuff. I find Eric's style enjoyable and the light he casts on Australian life in University rather fascinating. (A4-14t)

□**THE GEIS LETTER** #1 ($2 from Richard E. Geis, PO Box 11408, Portland, OR 97211): Some people just can't quit—Geis apparently got bored with not publishing, and so this zine resulted. It's reviews of books from the SF/fantasy/horror end of the publishing world, and fine reviews they are. Geis shows no mercy to poor writing or unbelievable plots, while remaining open to quality wherever he discovers it—even in so unlikely a spot as Attanasio's new **WYVERN**. (S-8r)

GEMSTONE REPORT Vol. 1 #2 ("Free, but please send Gemstone Files" from 2225 Montego Dr., Lansing, MI 48912): X. Sharks DeSpot is slowly probing into the Gemstone files, comparing the samisdat conspiracy theory with the public record. In this issue the deaths of Estes Kefauver and Phillip Graham are covered. (S-6)

GENII Vol. 53 #5-6 ($30/yr from PO Box 36068, Los Angeles, CA 90036): "The International Conjurors' Magazine" is a delight to every boy who once dreamed of being a stage magician. They profile famous folks in the business (the Japanese daredevil Tenko Hikita makes for fascinating reading in #5) and reveal the secrets to many a new trick. The ads are always fascinating too. (S-60t)

GHOSTS & SCHOLARS #12 ($4 from Richard Fawcett, 61 Teecomwas Dr., Uncasville, CT 06382): Fawcett is the US agent for this collection of ghost stories and associated writings, published in England by Rosemary Pardoe. It all revolves around the writings of M.R. James, who chose an English college setting for most of his stories. There are reprints here, new efforts, and scholarly criticism. Occasionally a bit dry, but almost always solid. (A5-40r)

GIRLIE MAG Vol. 1 #2 ($2.50 from PO Box 7118, Ann Arbor, MI 48107): The long-awaited second issue of this "femzine for the broad-minded" is finally out, with a mix of stuff from the wild side of feminism. There's a column on the effect of *Maude* on our culture, an interview with Michelle Shocked, and comics from Mary Gleener, Carol Lay and Luna Ticks. They've also got a wickedly funny back cover parody of those awful Camel cigarette ads with the phallic nose. (S-32t)

□**GLOBAL VILLAGE VOICE** #1 ($5 IMO [add 4 IRCs for air postage] from TMC, 25 Broome House, Pembury Rd., London E5 8LL, ENGLAND): A perfect-bound digest of writings and pictures from the margins of culture. The theme of this premiere issue is "incendiary", and it's got the Cocoanut Grove fire, spontaneous human combustion, the drives of arsonists, cave men and H-bombs, ball lightning and other fire-like phenomena inside. There's a rough-hewn look to it, as if the information was too urgent to polish, and a small list of mail-art contacts at the end. (A5-156)

□**GLOBOLINKS!** #1 ($1 from PO Box 6387, Annapolis, MD 21401-0387): A selection of punk culture, music, enigmatic sayings from Estragon, and other stuff. I enjoyed the drawings of "Skinheads for Tutus", notes the SubGenius ad, and was confused by the poetry of windex. A strangely surreal story runs across the bottoms of the pages. (HL-28)

□**GLYPH** #1-2 (The Usual from Exil Q. Trob, 717 Matadero Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306): A science fiction personalzine with commentary and autobiography from Exil, who spends much of #1 introducing himself. #1 also has reviews of conventions and fanzines, while #2 has an essay on objective reality and its lack of uses, and an earthquake review. Enjoyable and precise writing. (S-14t)

GNOSIS #15 ($5 from PO Box 14217, San Francisco, CA 94114-0217): This nice-looking magazine is a continuing exploration of the roots of esoteric spiritual traditions in the West. This issue takes a side-trip into ancient civilizations, ranging from a survey of Atlantis thinking to some archaeological notes from Çatal Hüyük in Anatolia. Along the way we get to visit Delphi and sweep over the interpretations of the Mayans by various scholars. Feisty letters and careful book reviews are in every issue. (S-88t)

□**THE GOD/GODDESS O'COOL FUN CLUB NEWSLETTER** (SASE or cool gifts from Colleen Fenderson, PO Box 24, Bristol, WI 53104): A joint project from Colleen of **COLLEEN ZINE** and cereal promo maven Graham Trievel. They invite everyone to send them large t-shirts, and get back cool stuff in return, from mail art to appointment as High Priests of something or other. Bizarre. (S-2r)

□**GOREHOUND** #4 (IRCs from 2e Weteringdwarsstraat 60, 1017 SX Amsterdam, HOLLAND): A European zine for horror and gore movie fans—the first I know of from the continent, and judging by their references to US and British zines, probably one of the few. This issue has a rundown of last year's best films in the country—which includes a number of things that were released much earlier in the US. Careful without being slick. (A4-10t)

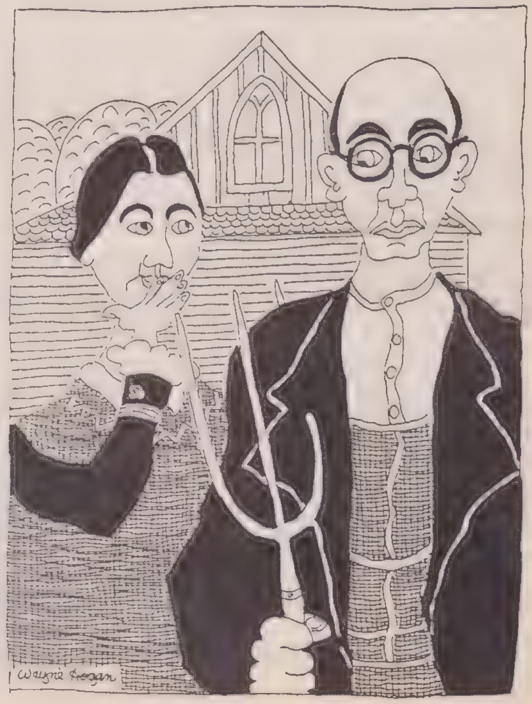
□**GOTTA WRITE** Spring 1990 ($2.50 from Maren Publications, 612 Cobblestone Cir., Glenview, IL 60025): A market and advice outlet for the beginning writer, with some slant towards the SF/fantasy end of things. Perhaps the best bit in this issue was Jeff VanderMeer's look at being over-edited. I wasn't too impressed with the stories and poetry published in this issue, but that may be in part because of their orientation towards beginners. (S-40t)

THE GRABINSKI READER #5 ($3.50 from Miroslaw Lipinski, PO Box 2398, New York, NY 10009): Lipinski continues his work of translating the little-known (at least heretofore in English) works of Stefan Grabinski. These are eerie, macabre little d\tales, romantic and decadent; the closest thing to them in my (admittedly limited) experience is early Lovecraft. This issue sports a pair of new stories sharing a railway setting. (HL-28r)

G'RAFFITI Vol. III #4-5 ($5/12 issues from Camelopard Society, PO Box 16898, San Diego, CA 92116): A journal from a high-IQ society that is an alternative to MENSA. They publish book reviews and notes on their gatherings, editorials and creative writings, and some philosophy from off the beaten path. Devoted to fun rather than politics. (S-24t)

GRASSLANDS REVIEW #2-3 ($1 from Laura B. Kennelly, English, PO Box 13706, University of North Texas, Denton, TX 76203): A collection of works from a workshop in creative writing at UNT. There's some charming work in #2—K.G. Ellerton's light fantasy "A Stitch In Time"—and some tougher stuff—the gruesome small-town world of Michael Mulder's "The Stray". We may never see these people again, but they've put forth good work in this setting. #3 brings in some more familiar names, like Kostelanetz and Niditch, and they seem to fit right in. (D-64t)

□**GRASS ROOTS** Vol. 1 #1 (SASE from Christopher B. Martin, Route 1 Box 373, Charlottesville, VA 22901-9605): Chris has gotten disgusted with the Libertarian Party's inability to get anywhere, and so is forming the Freedom Party as an alternative—this first newsletter briefly explains why. Not too much yet on what they're going to do differently, though he cites Robert Fritz;'s **THE PATH OF LEAST RESISTANCE** as the seminal book in getting this off the ground. (S-2t)



GREEN ANARCHIST #23 (£12/10 issues from Box H, 34 Cowley Road, Oxford OX4, UK): An anarchist zine which asks some of the hard questions about what is to be done with industrial society. This issue has a special section on "Anarchy and Culture", more news of the battle over Stonehenge, and some praise for motorbikes. They also carry a selection of European anarchist news. (A4-24t)

□**GREENPRINTS** #1 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 1335, Fairview, NC 28730): A new literary gardening magazine started by the gardening staff from **MOTHER EARTH NEWS**. They're concentrating on "why-to" rather than "how-to": true tales of gardening lives, dealing with weeds, learning the rhythms of nature, turning a yard into part of the ecology. This premiere issue was a lot of fun and well done, and made me want to get out there and turn a bit of dirt over myself. (D-36t)

GREEN SYNTHESIS #33 ($10/8 issues from LED, PO Box 1858, San Pedro, CA 90733): A networking periodical for Greens of all shades across the country. While they don't shy away from debates, there is a definite emphasis on movement building by reasonable people. In this issue Charlene Spretnak tries to sort out some of the more strident debates. There's also material on Earth Day and on the new California Green Party. (S-16t)

GRIND Vol. 2 #10 ($8/12 issues from Richard green, PO Box 32, Old Bridge, NY 08857): Well, GRIND has doubled its size, and now offers more insightful comments on movies than ever. #10 opens with a couple of trendy drug pictures, and closes with a review of the cheapo shot-on-video *Campout*. (S-4)

GROINK! #3 ($1 from Satanburger Laboratories, PO Box 86493, Portland, OR 97286): A weird medley of comics, the adventures of Dr. Zen Buddha, political ranting, conspiracy theory, and who knows what else. The pages are laid out in all directions, so the transitions from ray-gun wielding sex critters to freedom behind the Iron Curtain is often somewhat abrupt. Worth a look, but be prepared to spend a long time trying to grok the contents. (S-28)

GRUB #73 ($3 from Dragonfly Farm, Lake St. Peter, ONT, K0L 2K0, CANADA): An open forum mostly written by a bunch of alternative folks around Bancroft. They're into farming and saving the earth and having a good time and other neat things. Besides essays, there are letters here, comics, poetry, collage, you name it. Community in a relaxed atmosphere. (S-46)

GUIDELINES MAGAZINE Vol. III #2 ($11.95/yr from PO Box 608, Pittsburg, MO 65724): A magazine for writers who want to survey the market for their work. The core of GUIDELINES is a service offering writer's guidelines from many magazines, a sort of one-stop shopping that saves on time and postage. But it's branched out quite a bit, to include surveys of writers and editors, thoughts on contests, notes on publishing, and basics for beginning writers. (HL-36t)

HALF DOZEN OF THE OTHER #3 ($3 from Improbable Productions, 123 Aspen Dr., North Brunswick, NJ 08902): A strong collection of socially-conscious works, leading off with some fine poetry from Lamont Steptoe. David Roskos presents a look at work as an exploited janitor, while Miriam Halliday Borkowski's "For The Husband Of My Body" is also quite compelling. There's a lot more work in this fat collection as well. (S-84t)

THE HAMMER OF TRUTH #9 (SASE (?) from National Cynicratic Party, PO Box 984, Gainesville, TX 76240): A zine of short humorous essays, In this issue they focus on the difference between pornography and art, warn people of the latest drug craze (stuffing live hallucinogenic crickets in your armpits, if you *must* know), and worry about the rampant takeover of Sacramento by "Godless Feminism". (S-3)

A NEW KIND OF ZINE/CHAPBOOK REVIEW. Beginning w/June issue. Rather than write "listings" for zines/chaps; I'll be excerpting strong material from publications and printing them w/an ad for the zine/chap. I will be dedicating about ¼ of each issue for this purpose. Pay for a zine/chap excerpt is one copy. SO, SEND CLASSIC ISSUES OF YOUR ZINES!!!!!!!!!

HEATHEN's main thrust is as a raw literary review. Will review: articles/essays; oddities; fiction; poetry; photocopied art (paintings, drawings, pastels, etc), photographs; and comics. Pay is one copy. Submit w/SASE & zines/chaps for review/excerpt.

HEATHEN #3, June, contains work by: Gary Aspenberg; Stephen Ellis; Andrew Gettler; Lyn Lifshin; Patrick McKinnon; Rick Miller; Todd Moore; Edward Mycue; Richard Schmonsees; Jeff Skeate; Stacey Sollfrey; Ken Stone; Cheryl Townsend; Paul Weinman; the first zine/chap excerpts; lots of art; and some special extra's.

Ken Wagner
511 W. Sullivan
Olean, NY 14760

Size: ¼-legal; 62 pgs.

Price: $2.25 post-paid

□**HANG 'EM HIGH** Vol. 0 #0 (50¢ (?) from Rod Toole, 304 Oriente, Daly City, CA 94014): A new zine of rants and press clippings. The title is a reference to what the editor feels should be done with Reagan, Bush and the rest of their ilk. This issue also looks at Earth Day and has some strongly negative things to say about nuclear power. (S-6)

HARDWARE #3 ($10/3 issues from 710 Adeline St., Trenton, NJ 0861): A magazine of technophilic science fiction stories and poetry, celebrating the ever-closing man-machine interface. Winning stories this issue include Bruce Bethke's satirical "The Last Cyberpunk Story" and Paul Di Filippo's sweeping "Gravitons". Something for any budding technonaut here. (HL-40t)

HARVEST Vol. 10 #5 ($11/8 issues from PO Box 228, S. Framingham, MA 01701): A pagan journal which provides a good overview of the ideas and people involved, though no single issue is exhaustive. Sooner or later, though, everything turns up here. #5, the Beltane issue has a circle-casting for the asthmatic, men's secrets, faerie gardening, and a ritual to do before sleeping. Every issue has reviews, letters, ads and news from all over. (S-34t)

HAUNTS Spring 1990 ($4.75 from Nightshade Publications, PO Box 3342, Providence, RI 02906-0742): There's always a few deliciously chilling stories in this perfect-bound collection of horror and fantasy. This time L. Clayborn Jackson takes us from horror to madness in "Host", while "Ghost Writer" by Reggie Peters takes a much lighter tack, turning yet another story about a young writer into something special. (D-96t)

HEADLINES #20 ($2 from Dave Mitchell, PO Box 5094, Winter Park, FL 32793-5094): A zine of SubGenius theology and wrestling discussion, with particular attention to the differences between the Trevinoists and the Palmerists. Features original comics, true and altered newspaper clippings, and short fiction—this time an unpublished three-fisted tale from Janor Hypercleats. (S-12t)

HEATHENZINE Vol. 1 #3 ($2.25 from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan St., Olean, NY 14760): A small litzine which is taking on a lot of edgy work, from poetry by Todd Moore to a a nasty little short story by Rick Miller. Overall this is pretty far from sweetness and light. Ken also excerpts material from a batch of other zines and gives ordering info in lieu of reviewing them, an interesting approach. (D-60r)

HEAT SEEKER #3 (50¢ from Glacier #43, SOSC, Ashland, OR 97520): Lots of poorly-copied fine print in this one, and even more attitude. There's ragging on MTV, a list of movies that should be made, and anti-racist cartoons. An obligatory political column is included to demonstrate the proper punk orientation. (D-16r)

□**HEAVEN STAY A WHILE** #20 (The Usual from Vijay Bowen, PO Box 175, Murray Hill Sta., New York, NY 10156-0175): This is an APA-NU zine which doubles to keep friends posted on Vijay's life; since she sent it to me, here it is. Besides the apa comments, which will be inscrutable to most outsiders, there are memory collages from the past couple of conventions she's been too. The recurring themes this time around revolve around self-image and bigotry. (S-12t)

HERMIT CRaB #5 (Donation from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): A zine of personal introspection and poetic analysis. Carl here explores some of the things various great poets have said, introduces himself, and generally carries on. (HL-12)

□**HERSPECTIVES** Vol. 2 #1 ($5 from Mary E. Billy, PO Box 2047, Squamish, BC, V0N 3G0, CANADA): A special issue of this zine of women's writing, edited by Gail Whitter and with the theme of "silence". To some writers, this is a contemplative thing; to others, it represents complicity in ignoring the problems of the world; to another, it fits in with gender-specific language. Poetry, prose, essays. (S-24)

HIPPO "Vernal and Summerly ish, 1990" ($2.50 from Chautauqua Press, 28834 Boniface Dr., Malibu, CA 90265): A small litmag that tends towards rather experimental stories—not flashy experimental writing, but not necessarily concerned with wrapping up a nice little package of plot and characterization either. "A Quiet Place" by Andy Roberts is perhaps the best example in this issue combining beans and loneliness in an open-ended story. Good poetry from Sheila Murphy, Belinda Subraman and lots of others too. (D-44r)

☐**HOBBYLAND** Vol. 5 #13 ($3 or 8 IRCs from Marissa Hortillas, PO Box 505, Iloilo City, 5000, PHILIPPINES): A penpal club with members from all over the world, and the women outnumbering the men by a wide margin. In addition to pal listings, there are bits on rubber stamps, travelogues and descriptions by members of where they live, and a page or two of recipes. They also list other penpal clubs, just in case this one isn't enough for you. (L-14)

HOME PLANET NEWS #28 ($8/4 issues from PO Box 415, Stuyvesant Sta., New York, NY 10009): A litmag featuring quite a mix of material and a strongly radical editorial stance, somewhere in the tradition that poetry can change or at least illuminate the world. This issue includes a spread of stories about cats, a selection of poetry written to honor Greenwich Village poet Harold Goldfinger, and plenty of reviews. (T-24)

HOME POWER #16 ($2 from PO Box 130, Hornbrook, CA 96044): All you ever wanted to know about living and working off the power grid, from an outfit that practices what it preaches. Every issue is filled with how-to articles, as and product evaluation that will point you in the right directions: solar, water, wind or whatever. Fascinating and inspirational. (S-64t)

HOMO SAPIENS #7/8 (CP 705, 70121 Bari, ITALY): A densely-theoretical Italian-language anarchist journal. Various articles cover environmental issues, anarcho-syndicalism, anti-clericalism and more. They also have a fairly extensive section of comics and editorial cartoons. (S-64t)

☐**HOMOTURE** #1 ($5 *CASH* from PO Box 191781, San Francisco, CA 94119-1781): A new zine of gay culture which strongly protests the attempts of anyone trying to ignore or suppress even the darker, underground, flamboyant side of their world. Thus they are as upset at middle-class gays as they are at prejudiced straights. But they're not humorless; this is a multifaceted artistic romp, with stickers and photos and essays and punk fiction and acetate pages and much more. A well-done new entry. (HL-28t)

HORIZONS UNLIMITED #42 (50¢ & Age Statement from Nancy Spriggs, 7935 Hillside Turn., Mt. Airy, MD 21771): A collection of drawings of naked women, silly jokes, and other humorous and artistic bits. It tends to be a bit of a hodge-podge, with no features guaranteed to come back except for Tisch's sexy drawings. (S-8)

☐**HOUSEWIVES' HUMOR** Vol. 1 #1 ($4 from Deborah Haeseler, PO Drawer 1518, Lafayette, CA 94549): A new "Women's Domestic Humor Journal" in the tradition of Erma Bombeck or Jean Kerr. Deborah encourages beginning writers to try her out, and publishes anecdotes, cartoons, essays, non-fiction and anything else that might bring a chuckle to your lips. A fun debut. (D-40t)

HUDSON VALLEY GREEN TIMES Vol. 10 #2 ($15/yr from PO Box 208 Red Hook, NY 12571): Hudson Valley Green is a group concerned with preserving the environment in the Hudson Valley, from New York clear up to Albany. This issue discusses encouraging agricultural land use, the costs of organic produce, and of course Earth Day. I always have fun reading this; of course, I'm *in* the Hudson Valley myself. (T-12t)

HUMANIST NEWS Vol. 4 #7 ($25/yr from 4418 Josephine Ln., Roslindale, MN 55422-1328): A newsletter for humanists in the Twin Cities area. Their continuing series on contradictions in the Bible is always entertaining, but they have more serious articles too. In adition they are strong boosters for the local blood drives. (S-6t)

IDEAS & ACTION #13 ($7.50/4 issues from PO Box 40400, San Francisco, CA 94140): The publication of the Workers Solidairty Alliance, an anarcho-syndicalist group. They do a pretty good job of covering left/radical labor news around the world, and their ideological analysis is reasonably sophisticated. But I have a lot of problems with their relentless organizing and concentration on the workplace—just as they have problems with my own anti-workerist attitudes. But all that is a tempest in the very small teapot of the anarchist movement. (T-20t)

☐**I'D RATHER BE LAUGHING** (2 stamps from PO Box 3369, Iowa City, IA 52244-3369): Another entry in the humor zine sweepstakes. The stuff here is mostly pretty deadpan, with bits of chuckles breaking through here and there but (at least for me) no belly laughs. I did enjoy the story about the perfect circle and the high school teachers. (D-16)

THE IIIRD I #4 ($1 from Bruce Salamandir-Feyrecilde, PO Box 2683, Bellingham, WA 98227-2683): A zine of metaphysics and other stuff. In this issue most of the other stuff focuses on "Adult Children of Dysfunctional Families", with letters from several people basically telling their parents to get lost. There's also a response to some Christian evangelicism and a comic which seems rather out of place. (D-28t)

THE ILLITERATE DIGEST #5 (75¢ from Amerigo, 121 24th Ave. NW #200, Norman, OK 73069): A zine with a wide variety of contents, starting with music (they interview No Direction in this issue) but by no means ending there. They print poetry and cartoons, review fanzines and cream soda (and will love you if you send them obscure brands of the latter), and carry some positive environmental and social editorials. (HL-32t)

IMPOSSIBLE HUMAN CENTER NEWSLETTER Vol. 3 #3-4 ($12/6 issues from PO Box 55271, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33310): These folks are into two things. The first is suppressed inventions and ideas, from radionic devices to vortexian mechanics. The second is training oneself to be a superman, able to see better, do several things at once, and so on. Each newsletter is a series of short articles and training exercises in pursuit of these goals. They also have a good reference list of other periodicals dealing in unknown knowledge. (S-8t)

THE IMPOSSIBLE UTTERANCE #1-2 (Free for a stamp from Plastre Cramp Press, PO Box 1083, Wheaton, IL 60189): A zine with the announced purpose of "destroying all dogmatic verbal systems". They print a variety of experimental work that teeters on the border between poetry, prose and art, with Jake Berry's implacable list of instructions in #2 and Brad Russell's collage of the human condition in #1 being the most striking pieces so far. (HS-8t)

INDUSTRIAL WORKER May 1990 ($10/yr from IWW, 3435 N. Sheffield Ave. #202, Chicago, IL 60657): For May Day the Industrial Workers of the World have invited some of the women in the union to put out a women's issue, and this is is. It comes with a historical look at sexism within the union, an interview with a sex-trade worker, and a large poster for pro-choice folks. (T-12t)

THE INFINITE ONION #2 ($1 *CASH/stamps* from Dave Fischer, 7559 Red Mountain Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80920): A small anarchist zine that takes an explicitly anti-violence view of the world, arguing against propaganda by deed and condemning racist skins in this issue. There's classic stuff from Proudhon and Spies, zine reviews, and a free but not useful condom. (D-24)

INFO #59 ($4 from International Fortean Organization, PO Box 367, Arlington, VA 22210-0367): A solid and well-researched journal of unusual and inexplicable occurrences in the Fortean tradition. There's a lengthy article in this issue about possibly periodic volcano eruptions, a spoon in a lump of coal, Shambhala, UFOs and even a rather ambitious Fortean critique of science. They reprint clippings and provide many sources for their articles. (S-40t)

INSIDE ENVIRONMENT Vol. 2 #3-5 ($15/yr from PO Box 13061, Lexington, KY 40583): An environmental tabloid concentrating on the mid-South region and aimed at an audience that could be characterized as "reasonable people"—they try to present both sides of the issues, and show how industry can help clean things up. #3 concentrates on water, with underground storage tanks and wetlands reconstruction getting the most press. #4 is an Earth Day special, ranging from a restrained look at acid rain to laurels for BFI for a recycling progrram. (T-20t)

INSIDE JOKE #74-75 ($1.50 from Elayne Wechsler, PO Box 1609, Madison Sq. Stn., New York, NY 10159): Elayne has announced that #80 will be the last issue of IJ, but that still gives you almost a year to get a taste of the fun. #74 has Anni Ackner writing of the joys of opening her own store, Kid Sieve writing about more ridiculous modern commercials, and a comics column from Steve Chaput. Other contents include plenty of short comic fiction, cartoons, and even some poetry and letters. #75 has the annual round-robin IJ Party fiction. (S-32r)

☐**INSIDE OUT!** #1 ($1 from PO Box 2881, Vancouver, BC, V6B 3X4, CANADA): A new journal of prison abolition which shares at least some staff with **OPEN ROAD**. They do short articles on various of the more famous prisoners these days: Avi Naftel, the Africa family from MOVE, Linda Couch and more here. There's also a listing of prisoners seeking correspondence. (HL-8r)

THE INSIDER GUN NEWS Vol. 4 #4 ($50/12 issues from The Gunpress Publishing Company, PO Box 2441, Merrifield, VA 22116): As the title suggests, this is an "insider's" look at the gun industry and the groups surrounding it. #4 concentrates on the NRA, presenting an alternative annual report to show just how ineffective it's been at protecting its members rights lately. (S-4)

☐**INSIGHTS** Spring 1990 (¥3000/4 issues frrom IRF Labs, Takaoka Bld. 4F, Yushima 2-22-2, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113, JAPAN): That's a domestic price, so perhaps you should write first to inquire about mailings costs. This zine has a mix of New Age and ecological news, with Japanese holistic medicine, recycling and living lightly, rainforests and the Deva Foundation all in this issue. A good job. (S-40t)

INSTANT DECORATE YOUR REFRIGERATOR PRESS #1 ($3 from Gregory, 1525 Euclid Ave. #20, Miami Beach, FL 33139): A set of pages in a bag and clipped together, so you really can pull them apart and decorate your refrigerator with them. There's some art here, some concrete poetry, a curious written work (in an imaginary calendar), collages and more. A medley of creativity. (S-11)

INSTAURATION Vol. 15 #4-6 ($25/yr from Howard Allen Enterprises, PO Box 76, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920): The folks writing here often sound a bit beleaguered. Small wonder, since they advocate the preservation of white Northern European culture in this country and decry race-mixing and the "melting pot" concept. INSTAURATION is challenging and disturbing to read, as well as literate enough to give the liberal world-view a run for its money. Of course, at times it also seems to be narrow-mindedly bigoted. Or wide-minded bigoted: #6 has an article which begins "Asians are to whites as whites are to blacks". (S-40t)

INSTEAD OF A MAGAZINE #48 ($2 *CASH* from PO Box 433, Willimantic, CT 06226): OK, this time I have to toot my own horn: the lead article in this anarchist journal is my own "Closing the Gaps: Challenges for the Anarchist Movement", which I think is one of the more important essays I've ever written. There's lots of other good stuff too, including Mike Ziesing and Hakim Bey on armchairism, some prison letters, a consideration of Eastern Europe by Terry Epton, and a list of contacts. (D-48)

INSTITUTE OF ABSURDITY NEWSLETTER April 1990 (SASE (?) from 236 W. Portal #170, San Francisco, CA 94127): This is mostly a list of plans which the Institute has for the near future in the area of bringing obscure comedy to the people. They're part of the National Farting Contest, have a beauty show for bellies coming up, and present continuing chances for people to make fools of themselves on stage. (S-3)

INTERCEPTED Vol. 9 #2-3 (65¢ plus 45¢ postage from Kay Shapero, 12536 Short Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066): Hmm, OK, think of a freeform roleplaying game...conducted through the mail and on a computer...employing all manner of characters from myth and fiction...and filled with in-jokes and madcap action. Can't visualize it? I don't blame you, but this is it; the newsletter is entirely written by readers and newcomers are encouraged to join the fun. Bizarre in the extreme. (S-7r)

☐**INTERNATIONAL CONTACT ZINE** #1 (2 25¢ stamps or 2 IRCs from 1045 Haman Way, Roseville, CA 95678): A collection of ads and flyers for zines (mostly punk/metal/hardcore) and music from around the world. They'll also be happy to publish your own small ad if you send it along with your stamps or IRCs. Looks like about 100 listings in this premiere issue. (D-16r)

INTERRACIAL CLUB OF BUFFALO NEWSLETTER May 1990 (415/50/12 issues from Interracial Club of Buffalo, PO Box 400 Amherst Branch, Buffalo, NY 14226): A roundup of notes on shows and stories involving interracial couples and families, together with networking between various real-life support groups and services. They focus mostly on this area of the country, but have ties to similar groups elsewhere. (S-11)

IN THE PINK Vol. 4 #3 (IRCs from 37 Thorp St., Birmingham B5 4AU, UK): A lesbian & gay newsletter for the West Midlands. There seem to be a lot of setbacks as far as gay rights in Britain these days, and a lot of this news is depressing. Despite it all they also find hopeful stuff to print and continue a longish calendar & contact section. (A5-10r)

INTUITIVE EXPLORATIONS Vol. III #9-11 ($15/yr from PO Box 561, Quincy, IL 62306-0561): A newsletter of various New Age and related activities. John Kurluk presents a Tarot column and does readings to answer questions sent to him, Father John Groff Jr. talks about the death of gurus, and Edna Wallace channels advice from Ammed in #9. Past lives and the use of psychometry both come up in #10. (S-24)

IPPL NEWSLETTER Vol. 17 #1 ($20/yr from PO Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484): The International Primate Protection League has been working hard to stop commerce in captured apes and monkeys for years now, and has scored some spectacular successes, including victory in a nuisance lawsuit and the arrest of a smuggler now jailed in West Germany. But as the newsletter makes clear this strugle continues on many fronts. Full of news about who is doing what to our animal relatives and who is fighting to protect them. (S-32t)

THE IRRIGATION DITCH TIMES #7-8 (SASE from 910 Pine Cone Ln., Colonial Heights, VA 23834): A single-sheet newsletter of humor and confusion. #8 has a White Boy poetry chapbook, a piece picking on some evangelist to street kids, and a cat-eating-mouse comic. (S-1)

ISSUES & VIEWS Vol. 6 #1 ($10/yr from PO Box 467, Cathedral Sta., New York, NY 10025): A newsletter from and for the black community that focuses on self-help and free enterprise. They try to take a positive approach to black economic problems, finding and focusing on people who have pulled themselves up and offering help and ideas to others. Strong and proud without carrying an eternal chip on its shoulder. (S-12t)

IT'S A MAD MAD MAD MAD WORLD #2-3 ($1 stamps/cash from Flybreeder Publications, 308 N. 77th St., Seattle, WA 98103): A zine for writing and artwork that is too confused or too deranged to appear elsewhere. Co-editor Steve Anger rants about drugs, while others present serialized erotica, psychotic babblings, marginal scribbles, and who knows what else. There's a bizarre 3D cover on #3 too. (S-18)

IT'S SPLATTER #5 ($4 from Marcel De Jure, 4615 Russell St., Los Angeles, CA 90027): A zine of strange and sometimes disgusting words and images. The hottest thing in this issue is an extensive interview with Elayne Levine, who does body piercing for Gauntlet. Ace Backwords contributes sexually-explicit cartoons, poets tackle such delicate subjects as the Pope's penis, and artist Joe E. spills some of his brain out on paper. (S-32t)

JAG Vol. 28 #4-5 (On Request from R.S. Jaggard, MD, 10 E. Charles, Oelwein, IA 50662): Jaggard has been writing for years about free enterprise and the benefits it would have, not just for the medical profession, but for all of us. In #4 he explains once again why he will not participate in government medical programs, preferring instead to deal with individual patients. #5 once again indicts the IRS and the Tax Code as illicit and immoral. (S-1)

JAMAICA TRAVEL WISDOM #1 ($3 [$1.50 if you mention FF] from PO Box 609476, Cleveland, OH 44109-0476): A new zine for the traveler who wants to get off the beaten path, and wants to do it in Jamaica. Editor Tom Sinclair has been there, will be there again, and has plenty of useful information to pass on. This includes contacts for alternative tourism on the island, places to stay, and recreation from hiking to river canoeing. Looks good. (S-12t)

THE JAMES WHITE REVIEW Vol. 7 #3 ($12/yr from PO Box 3356, Traffic Sta., Minneapolis, MN 55403): A literary quarterly by and for gay men. There are several very strong pieces in this issue, their 25th. These include David Feinberg's first-person look at AIDS titled simply "Despair" and "Marty", a tale of growing up by Richard Davis. (T-16t)

J.D.s #7 ($4 from B.R. Bruce, PO Box 1110, Adelaide St. Stn., Toronto, ONT, M5C 2K5, CANADA): An outrageous gay punk zine that has succeeded in getting refused by a bunch of prisons. Still, they're not pulling back fro their hardcore homo pictures and texts, letters from celebrities like Vaginal Davis, and other controversy. They've even managed to get kicked off of the local alternative radio station. Lots of S&M action in this particular issue, from a human ashtray to an exploration of the wonders of Doc Martens. (HL-60r)

THE JED YARICK NEWSLETTER 2/11/90-4/7/90 ($2/2 issues from 2500 W. 6th St. #308, Lawrence, KS 66049): Excerpts from Jed's life as a somewhat wild and crazy college life. The 2/11 issue starts off with him barhopping again, but by the end he's picked up a girlfriend and so it looked like a period of more restraint might lurk in future issues. But things are just as crazy as ever in the April issue. Life is fun. (S-5)

☐**JERICHO NEWSLETTER** Vol. 1 #3 (On Request from Michael A. Stephens, 45625, KSP PO Box 2, Lansing, KS 66043): A newsletter of prison law, reports on conditions inside (the story of John Perotti's mistreatment is prominent in this issue) and similar news. They also publish a list of people on the inside looking for penpals. (S-5)

☐**THE JOE NEWS** #1-4 (Free, in return for "something of a personal nature: a short note, a photo, a news clipping, a list of fave records, anything short and sweet" and a return address label from PO Box 153, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA 02117): Who is Joe? Darned if I know. This single-sheeter sees to be setting up a cult of Joe-worshippers though. Topics include Joe's coffee consumption, bands on the Boston scene, and crunch berries. (S-1)

☐**JOHNNY** Parts 1-2 ($1 from S. Hartman, Pinched Nerves Press, 1610 Ave. P #6-B, Brooklyn, NY 11229): The beginning of a serialized novel by Ken DiMaggio, with collage illustrations by Steven Hartman. Johnny is a perfectly maladjusted teenager growing up in a white-bread suburb with a molesting shrink, a drugged girlfriend and alienated parents. Black humor. (HS-12)

☐**JOURNAL OF UNCONVENTIONAL HISTORY** Vol. 1 #3 ($7.50 from PO Box 459, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA 92007): A new academic journal with a wider brief than most. This issue includes notes on the difficulty of being a scholar outside the halls of academe from David Sonenschein and Richard Kostelanetz. Ann Marie McEntee uses records of a masque to explore the gender and political identity of Elizabeth I, while Hillel Schwartz turns a book review into a consideration of just what "the real thing" is in American culture. (D-75t)

JU'I LOBYPLI #10-11 $4.40 from The Logical Language Group, 2904 Beau Ln., Fairfax, VA 22031): This is the technical quarterly journal of the folks working on inventing and promoting lojban, the latest successor to Loglan, the "logical language". Things are moving along steadily, and there are enough people who have learned the basics that JL is now largely composed of translations into lojban—along with articles on things like writing lojban poetry or testing the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis. #11 has an extensive comparison of lojban with Esperanto and some Q&A from a semiotic point of view. (S-44)

☐**KANDYKORN JACKHAMMER** #1 (SASE (?) from 1918 E. Main #2, Ventura, CA 93001): A little of everything in this package, which is prominently labeled "Free", but remember, they have to pay postage. There's an interview with the Jeff Dahl Group, poetry, artwork, and a weird rant about nature and civilization by Renaldo Millamo. No real plums in this first issue, but they fill it up pretty well. (D-16r)

THE KANSAS INTELLIGENCER Vol. 4 #3-4 ($12/yr from R.W. Clack, 5524 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502): A monthly polemic and look at the world. In #3 Clack considers education, proposing variable-rate vouchers (depending on academic achievement) and much smaller schools as the way to go. It makes sense, a compromise between mega-schools and home education. #4 looks at the prospects for energy supplies in the future and suggests once again that the free market knows best. (L-3t)

KATÚAH JOURNAL #27 ($10/yr from PO Box 638, Leicester, NC 28748): A bioregional newspaper for folks living in the Southern Appalachians. This issue is bound together by a theme of "Healing", looking back into traditional Native American ways and forward into the New Age. They also have a pull-out section with local Earth Day information, in line with their steady networking efforts in their area. (T-32t)

KEYCHIE KISHLINE #3 (Personal letter from 2334 S. 8th St., Philadelphia, PA 19148): Nicole went a while between issues but now KK is back again. There's a mix of short stories and poetry filling most of it, with bits of stuff like a PETA factsheet on animal testing tucked in the corner. Also has a load of short zine reviews and photos as backgrounds. (S-28)

KEYSTONE SOCIALIST Spring 1990 ($1 (?) from Socialist Party of Pennsylvania, 2208 South St., Philadelphia, PA 19146): A Socialist Party newsletter which makes a good effort to depart from the usual slogans to analyze local news and national shifts. There's a good article in this issue on the possibilities for worker-owned co-ops to make a difference. Unfortunately extremely poor mimeography makes it darned hard to read. (S-8)

KIDSCIENCE Vol. 3 #5 ($2 from 2215 Doswell Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108): A newsletter for elementary-age science teachers—or, of course, home-schoolers, of which there may be more in the **FACTSHEET FIVE** audience. Each issue is devoted to a particular topic, with a variety of interlinked activities, and also notes on the teaching process itself. #5 focuses in on insects, with an emphasis on observation and recording. (S-24)

KIDS LIB NEWS #19 ($12/3 issues from PO Box 1064, Kurtistown, HI 96760): A continuing selection of resources of innovative child-rearing, collected and photocopied by Mycall Sunanda and arranged pell-mell in one melange. Massage, breastfeeding, custody struggles, ion therapy, intellectual toys, consensual parenting...it's all here, in a format sure to provoke thought. (S-48t)

KRYLON UNDERGROUND ($1 (?) from PO Box 5830, Bethesda, MD 20824): Hard to tell if these photocopies are a zine or a selection of posters or what, but since they're stapled I'll put 'em here. Some pages advocate decriminalizing drugs, others look at the shrinking civil liberties in this country. There are propaganda cards to cut out and leave lying around, poetry, fractured horoscopes and a page explaining why the reader is a special person. Mind games galore. (S-18t)

THE LAME MONKEY MANIFESTO Vol. 4 #21 ($1 from PO Box 8763, Knoxville, TN 37996-4800): This issue no doubt caused waves when distributed on the conservative campus where it lives: the topic is sex and drugs. There are articles on how great it is to do drugs and on the joys of masturbation, among other things. White Boy lurks in the corners and Feral Faun's essay on the "Economy of Love" is reprinted here. (T-8t)

THE LAND NEWSLETTER #7 ($1 from Ridgehaven, PO Box 849, Glen Ellen, CA 95442): A newsletter directed at folks interested in buying land in the wilderness to live on. They keep an eye out for tax sales and bargain property out west, and although they don't always give the full details here they will dig them up for you. There's also an article here about the prospects of buying forests simply to preserve them. (S-4t)

☐**LANGUAGE MAINTENANCE** Vol. 1 #1 ($3 from Patricia

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Maynard, Box 121, 2745 Winnetka Ave. No., New Hope, MN 55427): A somewhat cranky look at language and its mistreatment at the hands of the American public and media. Patricia homes in on common mispronunciations, discusses affected speech patterns, and generally argues for a traditional approach to the sounds of English. Fun reading. (HL-8)

LAUGHTER WORKS Vol. 2 #1 ($15/4 issues from 222 Selby Ranch Rd. #4, Sacramento, CA 95864-5832): A sort of professional humor newsletter, dedicated to "effective humor". They focus mostly on the business world, detailing ways in which humor can be used to make the world a better place to work in. Still plenty of quips for those of us who are self-employed, though. (S-8t)

□**LEAP OF FAITH** #3 (50¢ from Weird Calendars, 616 165th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA 98008-4017): A collection of comics, short poetry, collage and enigmatic texts. Editor Matt Thomas does some interesting writing, and I enjoyed the cartoon story of the five year old boy who went to space. The Western play was just too darned confusing, though. (S-20)

LEFT BUSINESS OBSERVER #37 ($18/11 issues from 250 W. 85th St., New York, NY 10024-3217): Business and economic news from an independent point of view, and one which views many current economic developments with a jaundiced eye. In this April issue editor Doug Henwood discusses the potential for financial collapse (hard to predict, but greater now than it has been in 60 years, he says). There's a look at the business of Dow-Jones, notes on the situation in Brazil, and warnings of returning stagflation. (S-8t)

LEISURE (75p, but better figure $2 or so including postage, from PO Box 368, Cardiff CF2 1SQ, Wales, UK): A zine of cultural subversion that covers a big chunk of territory. They've got an interview with the guys from SHARP, a story about glue-sniffing, another short story by Karen Eliot, anticopyright poster distribution, reviews and who knows what else. Some of the pages are severely out of order, but that may jut have been intentional. An obscene Elvis graces the cover. (A4-32)

LE LOJBO KARNI #11 ($1.80 from The Logical Language Group, 2904 Beau Ln., Fairfax, VA 22031): This is the news bulletin of the folks who are working on lojban, a relatively new artificial language. They report on a diverse set of activities from convention recruiting to classes, textbook writing to computer programming. With this and the introductory brochure (available on request) and their Overview of Lojban ($1.60) you can get a sense of where the language stands. (S-16)

THE LETTER PARADE Mar.-Apr. 1990 ($1-/yr from Bonnie Jo Enterprises, PO Box 52, Comstock, MI 49041): Bonnie Jo publishes her own letters and those from friends, so this is like getting a batch of pen pals all in one packet. In the March envelope's worth she talks about going back to school, while others are on about supermarkets in Germany, speeding tickets, and the beach in Rio. April features an article about chasing livestock. (L-5)

LETTRE DOCUMENTAIRE #6-8 (1 IRC from Philippe Bille, BP 249, 33012 Bordeaux, FRANCE): This irregularly issued zine presents unassuming but always interesting documentation of art, which is a nice way for Philippe to observe the Art Strike. #6 is an issue presenting opinions (mostly negative) on the current Art Strike. Most of #7 is an interview with Presence Panchounette, and anonymous group of French artists. #8 is not relly tied to a theme, containing a story, and entire letter from Jacques Abeille complaining about being called a novelist, and other cultural detritus. Short and interesting for those who read French. (A5-4r)(reviewd by Geof Huth)

LIBERTARIAN FAMILIST Vol. 9 #1 (On Request from 5205 Fairbanks #4, El Paso, TX 79924): A newsletter of Libertarian theory as applied to the family. This issue makes the comparison between the underground railroad which helped the slaves in the last century and that which helps mothers and kids on the run today, at reasonable length. There are also some letters debating abortion as a matter of rights. (S-8t)

□**LIFE DURING WARTIME** #3-4 ($10/2 issues from 59 E. Van Buren #1400, Chicago, IL 60605-1218): Put out by the Friends Disarmament Program, this one look at the US military presence worldwide and how it is shifting for the nineties. They take a very cautious approach, pointing out that apparent victories in pulling troops out of Europe and cutting some nukes are balanced by moving troops south and changing to a flexible low-level strategy. The real dirt on US war preparations. (S-20t)

LIFE ON PLANET EARTH Vol. II #10 (#10 SASE from Embassy of Planet Claire, PO Box 3194, Bellingham, WA 98227): A mix of essays, reactionary screeds, and humor. In #10 there's a Fat Mike comic (as always), an analysis of war, zine reviews, and a complaint that Martin Luther King Day is a useless holiday. Who knows what the next issue will bring? (S-4t) **LIGHT & LIBERTY** #6 ($3 from Lawrence E. Christopher, PO Box 33, Woodstock, NY 12498): A zine that promotes freedom in many different realms, from that of New Age spirituality to that of libertarian politics. This issue starts off with a Gaian myth for the 1990;s and includes a horror story of state interference with parenting. (S-12)

LINKS Vol. 2 #3 ($5/yr from 735 Wolseley Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3G 1C4, CANADA): A social justice and peace zine with a Canadian flavor—for example, this issue has articles on both their health care system and their income taxation. There's a strong flavor of disgust with compromise here, whether they're writing about Earth Day or the difficulty of finding a union printer. I hope they don;t burn out on this. (S-16t)

LITERARY MAGAZINE REVIEW Vol. 9 #1 ($12.50/4 issues from the English Department, Denison Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506): This digest is devoted to extended reviews and essays about America's literary magazines. They examine them in some depth, and if occasionally a reviewer misses the mark (in this issue Carl Buchanan seems a peculiarly uninformed choice to look over some SF zines) they more often draw out the strengths and weaknesses of the titles they review. A good route into a bit of the small press seldom covered here. (D-56t)

LITERARY MARKETS #51 ($12/yr from PO Drawer 1310, Point Roberts, WA 98281-1310): A short but reasonably frequent selection of markets for the author aiming at the small press. They list resources and contests as well. #51 focuses on poetry markets. (S-6t)

LITTLE SKULL'S BAY-BEE #14 (50¢ from PO Box 481051, Los Angeles, CA 90048): A collection of punk opinions on questions like "What's your favorite song?" or "What do you think of skateboarding?" They also tuck in zine reviews, self-portraits, and of course drawings of skulls. (M-8)

LIVING AMONG NATURE DARINGLY #12 ($2.50 from 4466 Ike Mooney Rd., Silverton, OR 97381): A magazine for folks interested in living on the land with minimal or appropriate technology. This issue covers cabin building, fox trapping (they're dropping all mention of leghold traps with the next issue), gardening, and more. They interview Jerry Belanger, recommend geckos as pest control, and look at some of the other homesteading press. (S-32t)

LIVING FREE #56 ($1.50 from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): A variety of unusual, low-profile, sometimes high-tech approaches to freedom. #56 discusses Antarctic ice mining, the differences between political and market voting, and the prospects for a free life on an island in the Dutch West Indies. (S-8t)

LIZZENGREASY Vol. 1 #3-4 ($1 *CASH* from Fletcher, Shuhoso #8B, Umegaoka 1-56-4, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo 154, JAPAN): An English-language zine of culture, both Japanese and international. #3 leads off with a couple of pieces on the theme of work, and then wanders in other directions. They review books, music and zines, and wind up with a discussion of large aquaria. #4 is mostly about travel, leading off with a close description of riding one of the busy train lines around Tokyo. (S-12t)

LOAFING THE DONKEY #31 ($1 from Peter Mantis, 123 Stonewall #4, Memphis, TN 38104): This one is now focusing strictly on films, though a lot of pages are also given up to advertising other Mantis zines. For your viewing pleasure, we have *Invasion of the Saucer Men*, *3 For Bedroom C*, and *Invisible Invaders*—with appropriate withering comments about the poor production on the SF films. (D-20r)

THE LOG CABIN #104-15 ($1 from Jerry Edwards, PO Box 881, Medical Lake, WA 99022-0881): A MENSA-based newsletter for folks living on the land, or at least thinking about doing so. Most of this springtime issue (#104) is about gardening, from seed exchanges to installing railroad ties to flank raised beds to starting new gardens. The zine is written by the readers, most of whom are also MENSA members. (D-20r)

LOLA-FISH #5 ($1 from Bruno Pommey, 36 résidence Jean Macé, 28300 Mainvilliers, FRANCE): A minizine of mail art with a foldout poster in the center. Bruno lists forthcoming shows and reviews plenty of little zines from around the world. Also, of course, a certain amount of art gets published here, and submissions are welcome. (M-32)

LONE STAR SOCIALIST #8 ($6/yr from Socialist Party of Texas, PO Box 2640, Austin, TX 78768): A strong socialist newsletter with a radical edge—they are into prisoners' rights and the IWW as well as more mainstream socialist politics. Other topics in #8 include the politics of balloting and redistricting, and a look at revolt around the globe. Lots of local labor news too. (S-16)

LONGEVITY REPORT #20 ($14.67/6 issues from J. de Rivaz, c/o Longevity Books, West Towan House, Porthtowan, Truro, Cornwall TR4 8AX, UK): A view of the cryonics and longevity fields from Britain. This issue suggests possibilities for international cooperation between various cryonics groups, and looks briefly at a few anti-aging drugs and therapies. Editor John de Rivaz is very interested in comparing costs for various suspension options, and is perhaps the most persistent voice for lowering these costs. (A4-20t)

□**LOST** #1 ($1 from Clay Boutilier, 53 Nipigon St., Kitchener, ONT, N2B 3N2, CANADA): A new zine of horror fiction and comics with a decidedly black disposition. Adam Thornton's "Troubles From the Old World" si sort of funny, but the rest of the offerings here range between gross and worse. I'm sure lots of people will enjoy this. (D-24r)

THE LOST PERUKE #XVIII-XIX ($6.50/6 months from PM Kellerman, PO Box 1525, Highland Park, NJ 08904): A small humor magazine that's actually pretty funny. In #XVIII Kellerman discourses digressively on Daylight Savings Time and takes us through the hassles of filling out the Census long form. There's the usual number of one liners ("Asked why he didn't order 'automatic redial' for his new phone system, Ronald Reagan responded, 'I don't recall.'") and other goodies too. (D-32)

LOVE AND RAGE Vol. 1 #2 ($7/12 issues from PO Box 3, Prince St. Sta., New York, NY 10012): A "revolutionary anarchist newsmonthly" which is much stronger on being revolutionary than being critically anarchist. They support any struggle against anyone no matter whether they have a hand in it or not, making this a medley of poll tax resistance, miners' strikes (do you really think coal miners really *want* punk squatters as allies), squatters and the music of Public Enemy. The underlying message seems to be something like "Cops are pigs, violence is cool". Overall, there's an uncanny resemblance to the average boring commie paper with a different set of buzzwords and a facelift. (T-16t)

LOVERS REVOLT #5 ($1 from PO Box 6042, Minneapolis, MN 55406): A zine with a Rainbow Family feeling to it, being a collection ofquotes and pictures from the hippie side of the culture. The attention flickers from Rosa Parks to Abbie Hoffman to John Keats, always looking at positive energy and recommending things to read. (D-20)

LUCKY #3 ($8/2 issues from 3302 Descanso Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90026): An artful magazine with a spiffy painted cover and a poster-like inside that folds out several times, making it sort of an artifact and zine in one. This is the "Fear and Monsters" issue, with songs to use as therapy, a story of being young, confused and in love, a Mary Fleener comic, writing from Exene Cervenka and Michelle Clinton, and other goodies. (O-2t)

LUNO 5:2 ($10/9 issues from Gene Lehman, 31960 SE Chin St., Boring, OR 97009): Gene's ruminations on education and other subjects, combined with phonetic wordplay originally intended to make learning spelling a fun activity. This issue looks at and challenges the notion of a chain of education starting in kindergarten—a rather revealing metaphor, when you think about it. (S-10r)

THE MAD ENGINEER #11 (75¢ from Mary Hagan c/o Mosier, 4550 Flake Rd., Martinsville, IN 46151): A small SF zine that's putting out double issues to catch up and has almost done so. This issue has some short political fiction by Lee Strong, book reviews, a logic problem with a prize for the winner, and a section of strange but true science fact newspaper clippings. (S-20r)

THE MADISON INSURGENT Vol. 3 #19-22 ($15/yr from PO Box 704, Madison, WI 53701): Generally left-leaning news from the alternative community of Madison, Wisconsin. Topics hop all over the place: Native American Rights, the Resistance Conspiracy case, local elections, and more. (T-12t)

□**MAGICAL BLEND** #28 ($4 from PO Box 11303, San Francisco, CA 94101): "A Transformative Journey" in the form of a magazine that consider all manner of facets of the changes going on in Western consciousness: brain machines, visionary art, learning to have better sex, mystical experiences, nutrition and more. They've got a good staff and an open attitude that seems willing to explore most any corner of the world that might lead to some truth. Among the fine articles in this issue are a brief look at Jack Parsons by Robert Anton Wilson and an interview with Keith Harary about lucid dreaming. (S-104t)

MAINE IN PRINT Vol. V #2-4 ($20/yr from Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance, 19 Mason St., Brunswick, ME 04011): Formerly **THIS MONTH IN MAINE LITERATURE**, this one has undergone a facelift to go with the new title and has a pro but friendly look to it. They still focus in on books by and about folks from Maine, offer reduced rates on these books to subscribers, and drop helpful hints about the craft and business of writing. #3 looks at another scam aimed at beginning writers. They also have available their 72-page **CATALOG OF MAINE BOOKS** for 1990, which should be available separately for a couple of bucks. (T-12t)

MANTEIA #3 ($55/5 issues from Sheila Wilding, 17645 Via Sereno, Los Gatos, CA 95030): A fabulously-spiffy looking English-language zine about the Tarot published in Denmark by K. Frank Jensen. It's got plenty of reproductions of cards (including one full-color page in this issue) plus articles about everything from Japanese cards to German books on Tarot. An interesting skip through a worldwide phenomenon. (A4-54t)

MARGARET FREEMAN DIGEST Vol. 1 #4 (IRCs from Mielle Christophe, 182 ave Jean Lolive, 93500 Pantin, FRANCE): A collection of ads for various marginal and underground publications, mostly from the USA. There's Art Strike stuff, tattooing, comics zines, poetry, t-shirts, and who knows what else. Material sent for inclusion also gets reviewed on anarchist Radio Libertaire in Paris. (A4-6r)

MAX(ine)'S TWO PAGES #8 ($1 from Crystal Rain, PO Box 866, Manchester, GA 31816): A newsletter of all manner of data and leads, taken from diverse sources...this issue even reprints some software reviews from **FACTSHEET FIVE**. It's also got a book review and a longish poem about motherhood. (S-2)

□**MEDIA PLACEBO** Vol. 1 #1 (SASE from Gus JaFolla, PO Box 276, Pt. Reyes Stn., CA 94956-0276): A new zine of collage from the Madman of San Anselmo. It includes a page of doodles, pictures of young women and animals, and textured backgrounds. Pretty minimalist. (S-6)

MEMES #3 ($15/4 issues from Flat 10, Sinclair Court, Park Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8AH, UK): A litmag which wanders off into the occult and politics as well as poetry and prose. #3 has an extensive essay by A.C. Evans on the connections between the occult and modern arts, plus Lionel Snell wondering why the liberals are afraid to stand up for themselves these days. There is experimental work and relatively mainstream stuff, and a section of reviews. Looking to provoke quite a bit of crosspollinated conversation. (A5-44r)

MEN TALK Vol. 13 #4 ($14/yr from The Men's Center, 3255 Hennepin Ave. S #45, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A magazine for the emerging men's movement, looking at gender issues from a male point of view. They span everything from sensitivity to the way of the warrior, but with an emphasis on the less macho sectors of the movement. The same group has active in-person meetings in the twin cities. (S-28t)

□**MENTERTAINMENT** March-April 1990 ($12/12 issues & Age Statement from PO Box 9445, Elizabeth, NJ 07202(): A magazine for go-go bars and the men who patronize them. It has addresses and ads galore, and features on many dancers, strippers and other women working this circuit, together with suggestive (but never nude) photos. Concentrated in the Ne York-New Jersey-Pennsylvania region, and taking off fast judging by the pagecount growth between these two issues. (S-64t)

MESECHABE #6 ($12/4 issues from 7725 Cohn St., New Orleans, LA 70118): A great-looking environmental and bioregional zine (who says recycled paper has to look yucky?) This issue examines the prospects for serious action to come out of Earth Day, interviews the local Greenpeace organizer, and talks about the links between environmental and labor struggles at the BASF factory. (S-32t)

MESSAGE POST #26 ($1 from PO Box 190, Philomath, OR 97370):

A reader-written guide to living lightly, whether that means in a trailer, in a yurt, or just camping out. They have tips on everything from avoiding tick infections to the proper washing of pots to tips for keeping warm at night. Includes lots of contacts and reviews and notes on previous publications still available through the Light Living Library. (D-20r)

MGM Apr.-May 1990 ($1 (?) from PO Box 1124, Keene, NH 03431): A monthly publication for Monadnock Gay Men, with a calendar of events, reprints form the local papers, and editorials. The April issue asks whether Ryan White would have been so fussed over if he's been a gay teen who caught AIDS from sex instead of blood transfusions. (S-2)

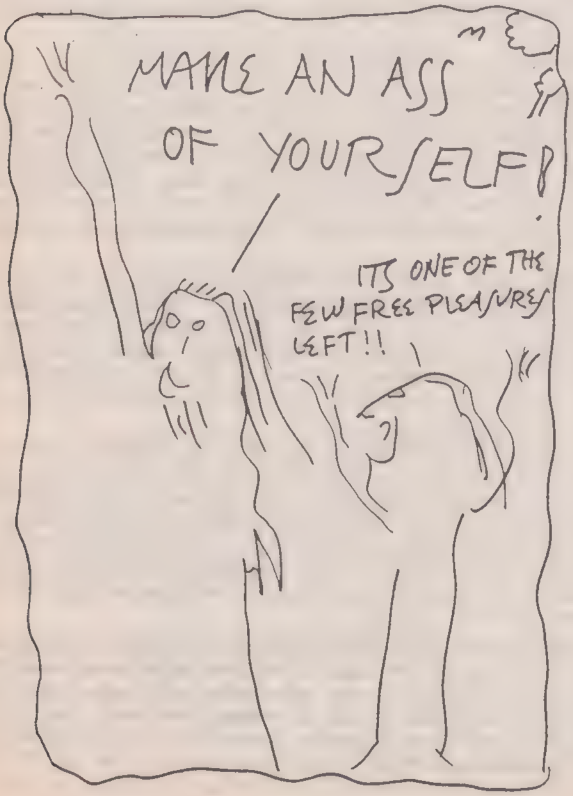
MICROWAVE NEWS Vol. X #2 ($130/3 issues from PO Box 1799, Grand Central Sta., New York, NY 10163): Unless you've been asleep lately you know that controversy over the health effects of electromagnetic fields—whether from computer terminals, power lines, or electric blankets—continues to rage. Evidence is piling up that *something* unhealthy is going on, though, and this technical journal summarizes that evidence on a bimonthly basis. Get your library to subscribe if you'd like to keep an eye on this field. (S-16t)

MISC. #42-43 ($6/yr from Clark Humphrey, 1630 Boylston #203, Seattle, WA 98122): A single sheet of culture-watching and opinions. Clark dives into such obscurities as the difference between women in punk and women in surrealism, smells of the US, local and national press, and the elections in Nicaragua. Readable and thoughtful. (S-2t)

MISS FIT'S FREE PRESS #2 (SASE from c/o Food Stamp Gallery, 107 Havemeyer St. #33, Brooklyn, NY 11211): A collection of essays and poems and lyrical writing and small posters with a generally ecological point of view. These folks are into opposing repression and animal testing and global warming and food irradiation with the power of art to move minds. (HL-12r)

MOBILITY LTD. Mar./Apr. 1990 ($14/yr from 401 Linden Center Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80524): "A magazine for people with mobility impairments"—quadraplegics, those with cerebral palsy, and so on. They do extensive scanning for new products to help these people, and discuss everything from fishing to gardening as possible activities. There's also attention to telecomunications, pool safety and paranoia over language. (S_32t)

□**MODERN TIMES** #1-4 ($15/10 issues from 1931 Scott Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90026): A serious film magazine that combines critical theories (Nietzsche and Debord pop up from time to time) with extended discussions of modern cinema. In #3 the careers of Sergio Leone and Lucille Ball are analyzed. #4 talks to Jerzy Skolimowski and invites a bunch of well-known critics to submit retrospective bests lists for the 1980s. For those who speak the language. (T-28t)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MOLE #2 ($2 from PO Box 5490, Winter Park, FL 32793-5490): There's as much music in here as in some music zines, but they range much more widely into other cultural arenas, so I guess I'll leave the zine here. Several accounts of finding voodoo dolls are reprinted, there's a page on spy devices and their effect on our privacy, and short bizarre fiction by Gregg Gibson. The article on AM talk radio is also well done. On the music side, Mike Watt and the Laughing Hyenas get top billing. (S-40)

□**MONGO STACK** Vol. 1 #1 ($10/6 issues from 487 Lakeshore Park Rd., Boulder, CO 80302): A new humor tabloid with a sort of libertarian political bent to it. They write about things like urine tests and unemployment—surely, these are as suitable for jokes as any other subject, and there are serious points buried within. A new idea. (T-16t)

MONKEYWRENCH #2 ($2 from Phoenix Michael, PO Box 92007, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-2007): A zine with a conscience. This issue is divided between material on Central America and material on the environment. They list US military involvement and boycotts, and make suggestions about both things to resist and things to encourage. A good overview of parts of the more general movement. (HL-22t)

MONSTER #29-32 ($10/24 issues from Kronos Productions, MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): A zine for fans of monster movies—no slashers, just monsters. #30/31 is a medley of reviews with no particular focus, and includes the start of a profile of Peter Cushing. #32 has lots of ghosts and more Peter Cushing. (D-8t)

MONSTERS & MOVIES #2 (25¢ & SASE from Paul R. Plaisance, 716 Penn Ave. NE #5, Atlanta, GA 30308): Stream-of-consciousness movie and video review and commentary.. Paul goes in for cheap films, from *Buckaroo Banzai* to *Earth Girls Are Easy*, and has fun talking about them, as well as Johnny Quest and Batman. (S-5)

MOON Vol. II #2 ($2 from PO Box 924, Springfield, MO 65802): An introductory pagan journal that still seems to be growing and finding its own path. There's a couple of letters in this issue about masculine craft archetypes, and later a look at some aspects of the Horned God. They also do a fair bit of networking, with a midwestern emphasis. (S-20r)

THE MOTHRA EFFECT #1 ($2.50 from PO Box 2752, Minneapolis, MN 55402): A new "punk" literary magazine that features quite a variety in its first issue—from an interview with Peter Plate to a reprint of Alfred Jarry's "The Passion Considered as an Uphill Bicycle Race". The graphics are stark and angular, echoing the poetry and prose which seems to be not so much breaking away from as simply ignoring traditional forms. A strong entry. (S-36t)

THE MOUTH OF SAURON Vol. 6 #1-2 ($1 from Paul Gardner, PO Box 97, Brattleboro, VT 05301): Published in England by Mark Nelson, this is (thanks to the confusing English practice of "subzines") part of a package including (I think) **THE YORKSHIRE GALLANT** and **BRITISH SENSATIONALISM**. In any case it's all about Diplomacy and similar play-by-mail games, with the bulk of this issue taken up with a chat with Fred Davis, who expands on some of the feuds that have marked the past decades of the hobby. (D-32r)

MOVIE COLLECTOR'S WORLD #341 ($25/26 issues from PO Box 309, Fraser, MI 48026): This one has some articles about celebrities and other bits of the movie scene, but really, it's a vehicle for advertising, There are hundreds of folks here anxious to buy, sell or trade movie memorabilia, from posters to photos to toys to who knows what. (T-60t)

MSRRT NEWSLETTER Vol. 3 #3-4 (45¢ SASE from Chris Dodge/Jan DeSirey, 4645 Columbus Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55407): A resource for librarians and others interested in social change and alternative news. They give plenty of contact information for socially responsible groups and periodicals, on a diverse selection of issues. #3 runs from Ojibwe spearfishing to Columbus Day to gay & lesbian art to peace and labor newsletters. (S-16)

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SELF-HELP PROJECT NEWSLETTER Vol. 4 #4 (Donation from PO Box 7573, Berkeley, CA 94707): A networking newsletter for MS patients and their families. It gives tips on sources of information, suggests books to read, and comes up with a few leads for promising treatment. Written on a layman's rather than a medical level. (S-4)

MW PENPAL WORLD Vol. 1 #2 ($1 from PO Box 563, Abilene, KS 67410): A mixture of small ads of the sort found in "Big Mail" stuff and penpal listings, together with contact information for a few other penpal clubs. There are also a few news stories on the front page which don't seem to have any connection with any of this, like the elephant on parade. (S-10)

☐**MY COMRADE** Winter 1990/**SISTER** #3 ($4 from 326 E. 13th St. #15, New York, NY 10003): Two outrageous magazines between one set of covers, aimed at a somewhat trendy, fashion and fun oriented gay population. **MY COMRADE** is for the guy sand the drag queens, while **SISTER**, with its photo spread of lesbian bikers, speaks to the women. There's plenty of fashion, amazing ads, dances, gossip, and hot though not pornographic photos throughout. These people aren't repressed. (S-84t)

☐**MYRIAD** ($2 from Wendy Yeck, 9585 Reseda Blvd. #322, Northridge, CA 91324): A collection of short prose and poetry with an ear towards the experimental. Thomas Wiloch presents a short existential vignette, William Lengeman III intertwines several texts on chemical warfare, and Michael Brownstein discusses inhumanity in verse. Other contributors include Tim Coats, Marcel de Jure, and Gregory Burnham. ((D-24t)

THE MYSTERY & ADVENTURE SERIES REVIEW #22 ($10/4 issues from Fred Woodworth, PO Box 3488, Tucson, AZ 85722): A polished zine for people who enjoy (some would say wallow in) old series books, from the Hardy Boys and Nancy Drew to less-known folks such as Rick Brant or Beverly Gray. This is for readers, not collectors; while much space is spent on talking about the content of the books, very little is used to speculate on their financial worth. (D-40t)

NAAPM NEWSLETTER #43 ($10/4 issues from 2735 Benvenue #3, Berkeley, CA 94705): A newsletter for Perry Mason fans. It discusses both the current run of TV movies and the classic shows, as well as the books themselves. The main feature in this issue is an interview with Ernie Frankel, who was the story consultant during the show's last season. (D-20r)

☐**THE NATIONAL AMATEUR** Vol. 112 #3 ($15/yr from Norma Kapplin, 1041 Flagtree Ln., Baltimore, MD 21208): This is the official organ of the National Amateur Press Association, which was founded clear back in 1876. Members get in addition a bundle of amateur journals from other NAPA members, but I haven't seen this. They have about 350 members (many of whom just read rather than publishing), annual conventions, and a concentration on the mechanics of printing as well as the content. (S-16t)

THE NATIONALIST #50-52 ($1 from PO Box 30505, Knoxville, TN 37930): The newsletter of the National Democratic Front, which appears to be the latest of the odious racist political parties hatched in the South. They are doing their best to drum up a fear of black rule in the "white working class" of the country, and call for a strong government that can do what needs to be done to make the people pure. Their stand on drugs (in #50) is simply that we can get rid of crime by getting rid of corrupt government and then enforce whatever laws we damned well please. Count me out. (S-8t)

NAUGHTY NAKED DREAMGIRLS #2 ($1 from Roller Comics, PO Box 221295, Sacramento, CA 95822): A mix of comics reviews by Lynn Hansen and smut by Andrew Roller. Andrew is fascinated by S&M, enemas, naked young ladies being dominated, and similar subjects. Undoubtedly he will find readers who are interested in the same sort of rutting male fantasy. (S-10t)

NEOLOGY #69 (C$2.50 from ESFACAS, PO Box 4071 PSSE, Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 4S8, CANADA): This SF clubzine has survived another change of editors (Catherine Girczyc is now filling that position) and continues to put out a mixed bag of material. #69 has club news, gaming, letters, and a huge section on "The Secret Life of Robert Runté" (this last rather an inside joke). (S-32t)

THE NEON NEWS Vol. 1 #3 ($15/yr from Val Crawford and Ted Pirsig, PO Box 668, Volcano, HI 96785): A trade journal with people who work with neon for a living—and it's not just signs any more, either, as any trip to the phone store or a big trade show will convince you. This is loaded with tricks of the trade, from the basics of diffusion pumps to building displays to show different colors to a book on how to make the alphabet from glassware. I enjoy it, and I've never bent a piece of neon tubing in my life. (S-12t)

NERVOUS HABITS #5 (Trade from GPO Box 2854, Brisbane, QLD 4001, AUSTRALIA): A zine of subversion and marginality. It's got instructions of making paint bombs and stink bombs, as well as flicker devices to bring on hallucinations. There's some conspiracy stuff about Big Brother and banks and all, Situationist theses on traffic, and notes on why the system is such a mess. (A5-32r)

NESPIT/LAWNEAL PRESENTS #2 ($2 from PO Box 36, Libertyville, NY 60048): A collection of doodles, scrawls, mail art and a few textual pieces—like the altered advertisement that used to recommend psychiatric hospitalization for troubled teens. In fact, an undertone of visionary craziness runs through the whole zine, leading to a lot of work that stands in opposition to a system with no room for individuals. (S-32)

THE NEW ABOLITIONIST Vol. VIII #1 ($15/yr from Nuclear Free America, 325 E. 25th St., Baltimore, MD 21218): A newspaper for the movement trying to ban nuclear weapons through laws. This issue came out before the Oakland ordinance was struck down by the courts, and contains a leaked aerospace industry slide show intended to organize corporate opposition to the measures. (T-12t)

☐**NEW AMERICA** #3-4 ($3 from National Democratic Front, PO Box 915, Washington Grove, MD 20880): "The Official Journal of the National Democratic Front"—a racist, anti-semitic group which wants a strong white America ruled by a benevolent dictator (presumably their head theorist Gary Gallo sees himself as perfect for the job). If you want to read their manifestoes and position papers, this is the place to start, but I don't think they're worth the effort. It's the same old scapegoating tactic of blaming a few easily singled-out people for all the problems in the world and hoping to rise to power on a road greased with their blood. (S-20r)

☐**NEW BUSINESS LISTINGS** Mar. 1990 ($1 (?) from Letter Perfect, 4205 Menlo Dr., Baltimore, MD 21215): A collection of news about mailing lists and marketing in general, put out once a month. They seem interested in tracking down useful mailing lists, and are geared towards smaller clients. Among other things, this issue explains why three direct mailings in a row are worth doing, and mentions a new national voice-mail service. (S-8t)

THE NEW CRUCIBLE Feb. 1990 ($6 from Garry De Young, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301): This is "A Magazine About Man and His Environment" which gets into all sorts of things. The prevention of oak wilt is one of the featured subjects in the February issue, as is the District Court ruling in Garry's latest legal case (he lost). Press releases from various state environmental agencies are also frequently reprinted here. (S-46t)

NEW FORCES Vol. 2 #3-4 ($5/yr from 8816 Manchester Rd. #167, St. Louis, MO 63144): A zine of international political commentary. Lebanon pops up in every issue, but other than that there don't seem to be any constants. #3 also has a rally against white-power goons in St. Louis and a look at the situation in Argentina. #4 has the New Forces Manifesto, a weird mix of manifest destiny, syndicalism and increased religious involvement in our government. (S-8)

☐**THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE** Vol. 234 #1 ($5/8 issues from 37 Skunk Farm Rd., Hillsborough, NH 03244): Editor Steve Fowle has recently acquired the rights to publish under this name, and makes a decent case this it is America's oldest continously-published paper. Most of the first issue is devoted to staking this claim and explaining why it exists—because citizens need a strong free press to stay informed. (D-8t)

NEW HOPE INTERNATIONAL Vol. 14 #2 ($4 from 20 Werneth Avenue, Gee Cross, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 5NL, UK): Another Review Supplement issue, with notes on books, zines, tapes, records, and other media from all over the world (primarily the US and UK). The reviews are short and done by a variety of people; sometimes two will tackle the same zine providing useful perspective. The closest British approximation I know of to what I'm doing here. (A5-40r)

NEW PATHWAYS #16 ($4.50 from MGA Services, PO Box 863994, Plano, TX 75086-3994): Editor & Publisher Michael Adkisson (backed by columnist Richard Grant) opens this issue with a blast against the "SF ghetto", lashing out at writers, editors and especially the rest of the SF small press in a mixture of thoughtful points and straw-man venom. Odd. Despite changing its spots to be "imaginative Fiction", NP still finds room for work from plenty of the same voices as ever: Brian Aldiss, Don Webb and Lewis Shiner all appear in this issue. Skip the editorial, enjoy the book reviews and fiction, marvel at the artwork and semi-baroque DTP design. (S-66t)

NEW PLAYS & PLAYWRIGHTS Vol. 4 #1 (On Request from Charles Likar, PO Box 14524, Chicago, IL 60614): A publication for the theater community—more specifically for that part of it which writes plays, with a Midwest focus. They interview successful people, poke around the fringes of the Chicago scene, and generally act to show playwrights that they're not the only ones out there. (S-24t)

NEWS & LETTERS Vol. 35 #3-4 ($2.50/10 issues from 59 E. Van Buren #707, Chicago, IL 60605): The only (so far as I know) journal of Marxist-Humanism, a bizarre academic offshoot of Uncle Karl's theories. They do a reasonable job of bringing together labor and revolutionary news from around the world, and then coat it with a thick layer of ideological interpretation. (T-12t)

THE NEW SETTLER INTERVIEW #49 ($10/12 issues from PO Box 730, Willits, CA 95490): A magazine of interviews with neat people who live in California or at least the West. This issue is mostly a char with Judi Bari, a grassroots Earth First! organizer who finally made me sympathetic to at least some of the activities of that group. There's also David Katz, who does solar power, and organic winemaker Jonathan Frey. (S-64t)

□**NEWS FROM NOWHERE** #1 (The Usual, probably, from Hawk, PO Box 12705, Gainesville, FL 32604-0705): A new personalzine from Hawk, put together so he can answer all his mail in mass-production fashion (watch out—that's how FF started). He discusses a new bike he wants, the joys of living in Florida, fun things to see, read and listen to, and the nastiness of bugs in the eyes. (S-4t)

NEWSLETTER WITH NO NAME Vol. 2 #4 ($6 to $30/yr from Rosemary West, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346): A collection of essays, argument and humor, mostly from members of MENSA though the pages are wide open. In #4 the best bet is Bailey Hankins' outrageous "Let's Off The Oldsters", a satirical piece which tackles prejudice, abortion, and probably a few other topics all at once. (S-4t)

NEW UNIONIST #153-154 ($3/10 issues from 621 W. Lake St. #210, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A left-wing unionist paper that wants to help build a strong labor movement cutting across occupational lines. They tend to focus on workplace abuses, with child labor violations heading up #153. Hard to tell if they're making any converts, though. (T-4t)

A NEW WORLD RISING #12 (Donation from Box 33, 77 Ives St., Providence, RI 02906): A modern hippie revolutionary Deadhead tabloid, with bits of correspondence from its far-flung network of readers dotting the pages. They're into ecology, feminism, smashing capitalism, and having a better life on the planet Earth. Lots of energy here, though a bit unfocused. (T-8r)

NEXT PHASE Vol. 1 #4 (50¢ from Phantom Press, 325 Humphrey St., New Haven, CT 06511): A zine of culture in various forms. It unfolds to make a high-tech environmental art poster, in keeping with this issue's unstated Earth Day theme. There are bits of poetry from a number of folks and a cryptic short story from Mary Alice Klan as well. Nice and arty. (S-8t)

NEXUS Vol. 25 #2 ($4 (?) from 006 University Center, Wright St. University, Dayton, OH 45435): A fat college-based litmag that continues to turn out classy-looking editions. This fat perfect-bound number has a batch of surrealist and other edgy work, introduced with some reprints from Szukalski. Contcrete poetry, a look at da levy's works, photos, and works from other contemporary authors are all put together here. (S-112t)

NOCIRC NEWSLETTER Vol. 4 #1 ($15/yr from PO Box 2512, San Anselmo, CA 94960): A central networking point for people who are fighting against the routine circumcision of male infants. They've mustered a lot of evidence, and there seems to be some hint that society is slowly coming around to their view. (S-4t)

THE NOCTURNAL LYRIC #15 ($1.25 from Susan, PO Box 2602, Pasadena, CA 91102-2602): A selection of short stories and poetry, tending towards the bizarre (at the moment, though, they're looking for more bizarre poetry to print). These are pretty snappy tales, with Rod Vick's "A Part of the Solution" a somewhat predictable but delicious nuke waste story and "The Viewing" by Jim Melrose being one of the grosser tales I've read lately set in the real world. (D-24r)

□**NOMAD** Vol. 1 #1 ($2.50 from Hope Kurtz, 331-3 Pennell Cir., Tallahassee, FL 32310): "An interdisciplinary Journal of the Humanities, Arts and Sciences", this one contains a wide variety of works. There are essays on revising the concept of marriage and drugs in 19th century Britain, collages, a transcript of the audio from a multi-media installation, poetry and more. A mixed bag indeed. (D-48t)

□**NOMADNESS** #7-8 ($3 from Nomadic Research Labs, PO Box 2390, Santa Cruz, CA 95063): Steven Roberts is a guy with a unique lifestyle: he rides a recumbent bike, loaded with computer and communications equipment, across the country and through cyberspace. Along the way he dazzles the rest of us with technical descriptions, travelogues, notes on other technophiles, pizza recipes (courtesy of partner Maggie Victor) and more. If you're the least bit fascinated by the possibilities of modern technology, this is a must-have. #8 has an essay inviting other self-starting entrepreneurs to join his band of technological nomads. (S-24t)

□**NO MAYO NEWS** Vol. 1 #1 ($10/yr from Charles Memminger, PO Box 8825, Honolulu, HI 96830): A new publication "For People Who Really, Really Hate Mayonnaise". The premiere includes notes on how to get rid of a jar of the stuff, testimonials from mayo haters, and generally nasty things about mayonnaise. (S-4t)

NOMOS Vol. 7 #2/3 ($15/4 issues from 9857 S. Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60643): A libertarian zine of theory and discussion that's been a long time between issues but is back once again with more fun than ever. The debate on whether prohibiting smoking infringes on rights continues, and one on the possibility of an interventionist libertarian foreign policy is shaping up. Game theory and gender gaps are among the other subjects in this issue. (S-36t)

□**NO NATION BULLETIN** #4 ($5/4 issues from Sören Groth, Nygardsplatan 36, 61070 Vagnharad, SWEDEN): The newsletter of the new group People to People Friendship Association, which is starting to build an international network of correspondents. It has the dual purpose of spreading news about cultures and countries worldwide, and helping to publicize instances of injustice. For example, they're now trying to brainstorm ways to make the situation in Palau (where the US government is pressuring the people to take in nuclear weapons) more widely known. (D-8)

□**NO NEWZ** #4 ($1 & stamps from Eva Hopkins, 32 Harrison Ave., Highland Park, NJ 08904): A mix of poetry, short stories, art and interviews that tries to avoid being too serious, whether this be in talking to a band or printing poetry. Some politics sneaks in anyway, but on the whole this is an upbeat nonpolitical collection. Wooden Soldiers and Pink are among the bands interviewed. (S-36t)

NOOK NEWS CONFERENCES & KLATCHES BULLETIN Vol. 3 #1 ($4 from The Writer's Nook Press, 38114 Third St. #181, Willoughby, OH 44094): A listing, broken down geographically, of conferences, seminars and other events for the budding or experienced writer. Most listings are in the US, though they did unearth one program in Canada this time around. Contact information is given as available. (D-12t)

□**THE NOOZ** #25 ($6/yr from PO Box 732, Akron, OH 44309): This one seems to be aimed at a college crowd, with a mix of serious features and humor. On the latter side, there's an article about what a fine thing it is to be a lawyer. On the former, there is a basic guide to the shootings at Kent State for those whoa re too young to remember. Also cartoons, classifieds, and in-jokes. (S-16)

NORTHERN SUN NEWS Vol. 13 #3 ($10/yr from 1519 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404): This social justice paper seems to be recovering from a bit of a slump and is casting a critical eye on a large number of issues these days. #3 runs from Central America to hospital incinerators to the conditions in the California grape fields to Indian treaty rights to the GWEN nuke radio network. (T-12t)

□**NORTHWEST EVENTS AND LIFESTYLE REVIEW** May 1990 ($$1 (?) from PO Box 4347, Bellingham, WA 98227): A free calendar and community paper for the Bellingham area. They range pretty widely, from art galleries to music, ski festivals to Holland Days. Plenty of contacts, where to go, and what to see info is included. (T-16t)

NO SENSE #4 (25¢ from PO Box 5961, Buena Park, CA 90622): A small zine of creative writing, from poetry to serialized fiction to what seems to be straight reportage. They're apparently not all that concerned with cohesion, more interested in getting a few words and feelings down on paper. For a stamp or two, what have you got to lose? (D-12r)

NOTES FROM OBLIVION #23 2/3-23 3/4 ($1 or The Usual from Jay Harber, 626 Paddock Ln., Libertyville, IL 60048-3733): #23 2/3 is the "Unfinished Words and Pictures" issue of Jay's personalzine, with some changes from his usual format in that his own health problems are barely mentioned. Instead there are thoughts on Earth Day, religious satire, an unfinished comic strip, and some collage. (S-4)

NOTES FROM THE DUMP #68-71 ($20/yr from Terry Ward, PO Box 39, Acworth, NH 03601): Terry actually does talk about the dump (well, now the Transfer Station) and recycling in #68, but that's unusual. Mostly this is just a meander through his life and times, past memories and present hangups. He writes well, and has enough interests to keep the reader wondering what will be on the next page. Relaxing. (S-6)

NOT ONE OF US #6 ($4.35 from John Benson, 44 Shady Ln., Storrs, CT 06268): This remains one of my favorite small press zines of the fantastic. Tom Elliott's "Lovebytes" opens with one of the great lines of all time: "I guess I should have known from the start it was a mistake to sell a computer to a vampire." Terry Black does an amusing bit of alien-in-a-bar fluff, while Jack Pavey treads pretty close to the boundaries of taste with his tale of a mass shooting in Stockton. (D-66r)

□**NOVA SF** #1 (2 IRCs for information from Adrian Hodges, 3 Ashfield Close, Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 4LG, UK): A new zine of SF short stories and poetry. Most of the works here are a bit too New Wavishly experimental for my tastes, but Graham Andrews' "...Hell is a City" was finely done, if a bit graphic in the end. Looks promising overall. (A5-36t)

NOWHERE NOTHING NOONE #1 ($3 (?) from Puppethead, 159 Myrtle St., Medford, MA 02155): This wasn't so much written as juxtaposed. It's a collection of Charlie Manson, Donny Osmond, writings about discos, sex deviants, teen girls, PTL, comics bondage, and who knows what else. A curious selection form our crazy world. (S-44)

NU #3-4 (Xavier Bouyges, 16 Rue de la Pinsonniere, 77680 Roissy en Brie, FRANCE): A large-format art magazine which features very modernistic pieces, on the borders between mail art and sheer postmodern crud. At least they're trying to give the art room to breathe and be appreciated on the large pages here. #4 is a bit less spacious, being A4 size instead of something larger. (O-6)

OAK SQUARE Winter 1990 ($10/2 issues from PO Box 1238, Allston, MA 02134): A litmag that comes out twice a year at most but generally has some pretty snazzy fiction and poetry to boast for the wait. This time I really liked "Animal Story #1", by Philip Athans, which hovers somewhere between SF and myth. Other contributors include mark Salerno, Ann E. Pluto, Deb Oestreicher and Jeanne Robinson. (HL-76t)

THE OBLIGATORY SIN #3 ($4 from Bob Crouch, 210 E. Jefferson, Pittsburg, KS 66762): A litmag which is proceeding in a series of titled issues. This one is "False Prophets" and most (but not all) of the pieces have religious overtones. Perhaps the most cutting is "Anthony" by Phili Hughes, in which illumination is drained for the purpose of market research. (HL-50)

OBSCURE PUBLICATIONS & VIDEO #5 ($6/12 issues from PO Box 1334, Milwaukee, WI 53201): A reviewzine that chooses a few small press items and concentrates on them; in this issue, for example, we get the story behind **RAISED BY WOLVES** in detail. **THE DAILY COW** is another beneficiary of the long-review approach, which is balanced by short blurbs. I find this to be pretty complementary to what I'm doing with FF, and hope editor Jim Romenesko can keep it up. (S-8t)

□**OBSESSIVE DEVOTION** #1 (50¢ from Karl Schmitt, 3523 105 St., Edmonton, Alberta, T6J 2K3, CANADA): A new skatezine that gets away with combining hand-printed text with photocopied photos for a unique, high-contrast look. Spots to skate, humor, inside jokes, pictures of folks in mid-air, and more. Plenty of enthusiasm here. (D-16)

THE ODINIST #127 ($8/8 issues from PO Box 1647, Crystal River, FL 32629): This is for folks who want to return to a primal Northern European faith—in their eyes, barbarianism is a good thing, not a state to be avoided. They preach reliance on self and family, freedom from "Asiatic" moral strictures, and courage above all else as a virtue. (S-10)

THE OFF-HOLLYWOOD REPORT Vol. 5 #2 ($75/yr from Independent Feature Project, 132 W. 21st St. 6th Fl., New York, NY 10011): A magazine directed at folks who are in the serious end of the independent film business, from starters to outfits like New Line Cinema. This issue explains what a Producer's Rep is and what one does, looks at the financing of this year's crop of independent films, and interviews the producers of House Party. (S-34t)

OFFICE NUMBER ONE Vol. 328,284 #3 ($7.42/5 issues from 1709 San Antonio St., Austin, TX 78701): A zine of rather deadpan humor from across the multiverse—most of this is stories from places like "Earth 8" or "the leisure world of Mars 14". Stories carry titles like "G.I. Joe Tulpa Invades Mars 26 S-Plane". Weird. (HL-12r)

OFF THE WALL #10 ("Stamp or a useful item" from 960 SW Jefferson, Corvallis, OR 97333:): A selection of graffiti, cut out pictures with snide comments, and other flotsam that really does live on John and Kathe Burt's wall. Amusing—instant refrigerator decor. (O-1)

OHIO WRITER Vol. IV #3 ($2 from PO Box 770464, Cleveland, OH 44107): For the working writer in Ohio, this is largely reviews of books from the state and news on the writing scene there. They publish some advice for writers, a calendar of events, and special articles as well—this issue reviews tours of a number of writers' homes. (S-16t)

OLIVERS REVOLVING SURGERY #2 ($3 from Mr. Breakfast, 103 Wheeler, Toronto, ONT, M4L 3V3, CANADA): A collection of bizarre material from all walks of life. There's a partial chronology of performance works by G.X. Juppiter-Larsen, a look at the life of Squeaky Fromme reprinted from some mainstream sourc,e deluded mental patients, dirty pictures, Swaggert begging for money, and who knows what else. A collage of culture above and underground. (S-40)

THE OPTIMISTIC PEZZIMIST Vol. 1 #3 ($3 from Mike Robertson, PO Box 606, Dripping Springs, TX 78620): A guide to Pez dispensers for the benefit of the collector. This issue is a valuable

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reference tool, listing 237 different Pez dispensers that are known to exist, plus a few that are so far only rumors. Lovely design and the occasional color photo make this a special zine. (D-32t)

THE OTHER ISRAEL #41 ($30/6 months from AICIPP, 4816 Cornell Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515): The publication of the Israeli Coucel for Israeli-Palestinian Peace—their name pretty well spells out what they're about. They report a good deal about Israeli life that you won't see in the papers here, from grassroots peace approaches to the trials of trying to object to military service for young Israelis. (S-12t)

OTHER REALMS #26 ($2.85 from Chuq von Rospach, 35111-F Newark Blvd. #255, Newark, CA 94560): Though it does seem to be branching out somewhat, **OR** remains primarily a place to read reviews of current SF and fantasy by a number of folks who know what they're talking about. This issue includes an article by John Stith describing the construction of the fictional world of the Redshift. (S-60t)

OTISIAN DIRECTORY Spring 1990 (Free from IGHF, PO Box 235, Williamstown, MA 01267): The occasional guide to the margins and the underground put out by the Intergalactic House of Fruitcakes. Though technically free, it costs them a few bucks to produce a copy, and a donation of two or three bucks would not be out of line. Besides contact addresses, there are plenty of weird graphics and a quick guide to modern satanism by a self-proclaimed non-expert. (A4-20)

OTTERWISE Summer 1990 ($4/4 issues from PO Box 1374, Portland, ME 04104): An animal rights zine for elementary and junior high age children. In this issue they attempt to get the basic idea of "animal rights" across, with perhaps limited success—but I think my perspective may be warped from too many philosophy seminar discussions. There are pages of activities with morals, notes on animal lifestyles, and concrete actions that kids can take to help their animal friends. (S-8t)

□**OUTRAGE** #10-13 ($15/yr from PO Box 4051, Stn. E, Ottawa, ONT,. K1S 5B1, CANADA): A small newsletter of social justice and other activist concerns. #10 looks at the mismanagement of Ottawa's recycling program, while #11 takes aim at a proposal to build a city aquarium. Animal rights, fighting Nazi skinheads, and militant actions abroad also get space. #13 gets into Poll Tax and GST resistance. (HL-4t)

OUT WEST #10 ($6/yr from 10522 Brunswick Rd., Grass valley, CA 95945): Editor Chuck Woodbury has what many would consider a dream job: he drives his "mobile newsroom" (i.e., RV) around the West, taking snapshots of silly things, pulling up in one-store towns and rating their burgers, and generally discovering Americana and writing about it. There's a streak of humor here and down-home fun that has made **OUT WEST** a small-press success story, and now thousands of people await the arrival of this tabloid every couple of months. You should be one of them. (T-40t)

OXFIN PERIODICAL #9 (Donation from Oxfin, Unit 1, Paradise St. Business Centre, Oxford, OX1, UK): A publication of the Oxford Free Information Network, which seems to be a loose coalition of anarchists, hippies, and who knows what else. Much of the information here concerns the annual festival at Stonehenge and the authorities' attempts to stop it. They also get into poll tax resistance and plenty of local dates and networking addresses. (A5-24r)

□**OZON** #1 ($2 from Jeff Brice, PO Box 21552, Seattle, WA 98111): An artistic and computerized exploration of cyberspace, or more precisely of the interface between cyberspace and the physical world. Images of marching electric lines, digitized photos, static, circuit diagrams and other elements are overlaid in multiple levels, producing an angular and abstracted reality on the printed page. (HL-28t)

OZONE #9 (Contact Doug Cox, 1503 Coker Ave. #4, Knoxville, TN 37917): An amateur press association which includes a great deal of short fiction from the members. Since they of course comment on one another's work, this makes the apa function a bit like a writers' workshop in print. There's also more art than in many apas and naturally the chitchat cannot be suppressed. (S-90)

PACKRAT PRESS ($1 from Kerry Thornley, PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307): This is sort of a generic title covering a multitude of Kerry's wall papers: **KULTCHA, THE DECADENT WORKER, THE CACTUS FLOWER GAZETTE, OUT OF ORDER** and **SPARE CHANGE** are all published under the Packrat auspices. The contents vary, but conspiracy theory, Discordianism, SubGenius rants, and communist anarchism are all high on the list. Send a buck and Kerry will send you a random selection of his recent publications. (S-1)

PAGAN APA #49 (Contact Rita Prince Winston, 548-3 S. Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291-4282): A place for wide-ranging discussion between pagans and fellow-travelers of all types. There are bits of pagan politics. summoning elementals, the use of grounding in everyday life, a Jewish perspective, freewheeling creativeness, dreamwork, and who knows what else in here. A friendly and fun place. (S-87)

PAGAN FREE PRESS #8 ($2 from Victor Brotte, PO Box 55223, Tulsa, OK 74155): This is a special issue of this pagan zine, consisting entirely of reviews. Victor and his friends look at movies, books, booklets, newsletters and even mail-order catalogs of interest to pagans. Most reviews are a few paragraphs long, and include ordering information. (D-28r)

PAGANS FOR PEACE #44 ($15/13 issues from PO Box 86134, North Vancouver, BC, V7L 4J5, CANADA): A pagan publication with interests in a lot of areas of social justice. There are links to the peace community, networking between isolated pagans, a section on upcoming events, a feminist emphasis, and so on. A loose-knit international network lies behind it all. (S-4r)

THE PAN-AMERICAN INDIAN ASSOCIATION NEWS #28 ($5/5 issues from PO Box 244, Nocatee, FL 33864): A tabloid of American Indian news that is not especially fussy about who joins in; they look for commitment to ideals rather than full blood. There are plenty of short networking notes and ads, some popularized myths, and membership lists in each issue. (T-16t)

PANDORA #25 ($5 from 2844 Grayson, Ferndale, MI 48220): This one has changed a bit since the last issue; now it's a perfect-bound twice-yearly SF & fantasy anthology. Some of the stories here are fun—like Douglas Clark's "The Ultimate Analytical Instrument", about a world where alchemy and science rub shoulders—while others are more serious—as with "What Could I Be Missing?" from Carole L. Glickfield. The artwork is generally high-quality as well, and reading **PANDORA** is a pleasant way to spend some time. (D-72r)

PAPER TOADSTOOL #2 (65¢ (?) from Duncan & Ruth, 4946 West Point Way WVC, UT 84120): The cover says "Free" but that should about take care of the postage. **PAPER TOADSTOOL** is made up of detailed, sometimes perverse, sometimes surreal, sometimes just scary drawings by Duncan with enigmatic captions. The best of his pieces have the sort of layers of meaning that can reward long-term contemplation. (D-14)

THE PARTIE LION Vol. 1 #4 ($3 from Randal Haithcock, 5156 Revere Rd., Durham, NC 27713): A collection of book reviews which tends towards intellectual works. #4 is solely devoted to Lewis Mumford, who recently died. Randal browses through half a dozen of Mumford's books, reprinting short excerpts and trying to give a flavor of this great and independent thinker. (S-12)

THE PATH REVIEW Vol. 3 #5 ($1 (?) from PO Box 311, New Hyde Park, NY 11040): A short review of new books (mostly) of interest to pagans and magickians. These range from a Llewellyn calendar to a new translation of Lao Tzu. Editor Carl Herron also sells handmade sets of casting stones for divination. (S-4)

THE PEACEMAKER Vol. 43 #5 (Donation from PO Box 627, Garberville, CA 95440): A newspaper for war tax resisters, plowshares activists, and others putting their own lives on the line to stop the machine. They're inspirational and informational, and prove that it is possible to live a much more peaceful life than most of us ever dare to. (T-8)

PEACEWORK #195-196 ($8/yr from AFSC, 2161 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140): The monthly peace and social justice journal of the American Friends Service Committee. #195 opens with a roundtable on the connections between the personal, the political, and the spiritual, and has some thoughts on further promoting change in South Africa. #196 has extensive analysis of the Nicaraguan elections and reports on Vietnam 15 years later. (S-16t)

PENGUIN DIP #33-34 $15/10 issues from Stephen Dorneman, 94 Eastern Ave. #1, Malden, MA 02148): A zine for SF fans, Diplomacy players, and other sof that ilk. In the back, Stephen moderated PBM Diplomacy games; in the front, he prints letters from SF fans, book reviews, and general nattering. #34 has rules for a nuclear variant of Risk. (S-16t)

PEPTALK Vol. 7 #1 ($10/4 issues from PEP, PO Box 6306, Captain Cook, HI 96704-6306): A support newsletter for people interested in polyfidelity, living with more than one person in a sexually-closed relationship. They print notes about social and technical advances that support this lifestyle and first-person accounts about growing into non-traditional families. They also help network people who are interested in trying this concept out. (S-12t)

PERIPHERAL VISIONS #3 ($1 from Rob Somers, PO Box 15031, Gainesville, FL 32604-5031): A relatively young SF fanzine that is already pulling together a good mix, even though its typeset look is a bit untraditional. There's an essay on the likely social problems of cyborgs, short fiction by Rima Saret and Steve Antczak, zine reviews, poetry and even a con report. And don't forget the letters of comment. Good job. (S-18t)

P-FORM #17 ($3 from Randolph St. Gallery, 756 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60622): There aren't that many places to get a sympathetic presentation of performance art; this is the only zine I get devoted exclusively to it. It's a good production, with reviews and interviews and stories that tie performance art together, make it make sense, and present it well. Of interest in #17 is a diary by Joseph medosch of a performance that turned into rather more than he bargained for. (S-24t)

THE PIGEON CREEK CLARION #3 (SASE (?) from Don Rodgers, PO Box 1014, Greenville, GA 30222): A single page of essay and opinion. In this issue Don worries about the changes in our national character, fearing that we are exalting victims over heroes. There's an undercurrent of Social Darwinism here, although it is not explicit and I may be mistaken. (S-1)

□**THE PILEDRIVER** #31 (75¢ from J.D. Woodall, 1707 Alabama, Big Spring, TX 79720): A stream-of-consciousness wrestling bulletin. It starts off with a recount of an awful card held in Texas recently and then gets into random bits and pieces of wrestling news. A few match result reports close it all up. (S-8)

PITTSBURGH HISTORY Vol. 73 #2 ($25/yr from Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, 4338 Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213): A well-done journal of local history. This issue has a history of the sport of rowing in the area, an early Rolling Stones concert, and a hundred years of printing. But the most fascinating part is a book review by Robert Colodny, reflecting on his experiences being interned as a suspected subversive during WWII. (S-48t)

PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER #253 ($1.50 from Jude Grant, PO Box 12421, Columbus, OH 43212): A collection of humor, some of which (like the "Maus Fink" drawing in this issue) is in questionable taste. They do plenty of other outrageous comics, a report on a night out dodging bouncers, and a more serious piece on ethnic humor. They've also managed to get banned from another record store, making them one of the more harassed zines I know. (S-32)

THE PLOWSHARES NEWSLETTER Vol. 7 #1 (Donation from PO Box 585, Orlando, FL 32802): An tabloid which covers the international plowshares movement. Plowshares activists try to beat real weapons into plowshares, and as a result of this and other acts of conscience, tend to end up in jail. But the stories in here testify to the indomitable faith behind this movement, and it seems obvious that the governments of the world cannot prevent their example from being followed further. (T-8)

PODIUM Mar.-Apr. 1990 (Contact at PO Box 190, Avenel, NJ 07001): A prison journal written by inmates at Avenal and mostly directed inward. It discusses the various programs there, gives some legal education, and provides a linking point for gay prisoners, African-Americans, and others. They may have a few copies available to send out to interested and helpful parties. (S-62)

POINTS OF LIGHT Vol. III #4 (SASE from Temple of the Eternal Light, 928 E. Fifth St., Brooklyn, NY 11230-2104): This pagan newsletter has recently doubled in size by adding a second sheet. Much of it is still concerned with items for sale, but they're finding room for more extensive articles and even some poetry. #4 includes a basic rundown on Beltane traditions. (L-4)

POOR ROBERT'S ALMANAC #5-6 ($1.50 from 800 E. Center #15, Provo, UT 84606): A litmag which seems subtly alien for a while, until you realize that their style sheet apparently doesn't allow for using quotation marks. They print a variety of essays, stories, and short poetry. #6 has some blunt talk on rape, a letter about feeding acid to some Mormons, and a crazy marriage/divorce story. (S-20t)

□**POPULAR LIFE** #1 ($6/4 issues from Mary Arp, 105 Belmont St., Rochester, NY 14620): A collection of collages and altered advertisements from the past. If there's a single theme shot through here, it's the silliness of our consumer society, from get-rich-quick schemes to the bowels of fashion. (D-20)

□**THE PORTABLE LOWER EAST SIDE** Vol. 7 #1 ($12/2 issues from 463 West St. #344, New York, NY 10014): A literary journal focusing on New York City and put out as a fat perfectbound volume. This is the "Crimes of the City" issue, with a historical look at the Bowery, an account from someone beat up at Tompkins square, juvenile larks and serious posse criminals, and more. They don't neglect the white collars either; the mistreatment of the poor and the city government's attitude towards AIDS and prostitutes also makes these pages. A big chewy chunk of culture and history (D-156t)

□**POUTNÍK** English Version #2 (The Usual from Jules Verne Club c/o Miroslav Martan, Pocatecka 12, 140 00 Praha 4, CZECHOSLOVAKIA): The fanzine of a SF club in Prague, where the climate has now thawed sufficiently to allow publication aboveground. They do serious book reviews, fan fiction, and commentary on the scene. In this issue they appeal for support from the international SF community for their publication. A unique item, even printed on paper that feels like Twiltone—though I suspect this is simply what can be had rather than a conscious choice. (A4-33)

THE PRAGMATIST Vol. 7 #5 ($10/6 issues from PO Box 392, Forest Grove, PA 18922): A libertarian periodical which takes a utilitarian perspective, arguing for less government on the grounds that it would do more good for people. #5 carries Fritz Knese's firsthand tale of a tangle with the social workers, a look at the lukewarm reception to Mandela in South Africa, and some notes on why consumer protection is not an appropriate activity for the government. (S-16t)

THE PRAIRIE RAMBLER #152 ($2.34 from PO Box 505, Claremont, CA 91711-0505): A selection of great thoughts and good stories from the ages. Editor Jerry B pores over various works, selecting snippets for the reader's edification from modern politics back to Tolstoy and beyond. Always a fun read. (S-8)

□**PRESENT TIME** #77-79 ($2.50 from Rational Island Publishers, PO Box 2081, Main Office Sta., Seattle, WA 98111): This is the core journal of Re-Evaluation Counseling, a co-counseling practice designed to help people discharge old hurts and become better functioning human beings. They have a well-developed theory and an active international group of adherents; most of the journal is written by RC people from around the world. #78 contains a fairly detailed description of their organization, as well as enough personal experiences to give a somewhat clear picture of their practice and lots of contact information. (S-100t)

THE PRESIDENT JOURNAL #2 ($3 from Chris Laursen, General Delivery, Tofield, AB, T0B 4J0, CANADA): A medley of all sorts of work. There's a Monty Python quiz in this issue, along with the start of a history of EC Comics, mail art, zine and record reviews, comics, poetry, and a short story or two. Still sort of unfocused, but broadly interesting. (D-44r)

□**PRINTED MATTER** Vol. XIV #1 ($25/6 issues from Steven Forth, 2619 W, 3rd Ave., Vancouver, BC, CANADA): Forth is te North American agent for this small but attractive litmag produced in Japan by the Tokyo English Literature Society., it features original works and translations, poetry, prose and non-fiction. Most fascinating in this issue is an article by Dr. Nawafumi Itami on "The Anatomy of Restraint", a little-known byway of psychiatric care. (M-40t)

PRINTER'S DEVIL #8 (On request from Joe Singer, PO Box 135, Harrison, ID 83833-0135): Better not expect quick delivery, as Joe is planning to move soon, but in a month or so it might be worth inquiring about this journal for small pressers. Joe is a printer, and he concentrates here on graphic arts for the small presses, from ditto and mimeo through DTP and offset printing. Press releases, letters, advice on what to buy and what to avoid, and reviews make this an essential for hands-on publishers. (S-30t)

□**PRISON LEGAL NEWS** Vol. 1 #1 (Donation from 4427 5th Ave. NE #2, Seattle, WA 98105): A roundup of news for inmates working through the legal system to try to better their conditions. It reports on recent court cases, with some concentration on Washington State but Federal and other jurisdictions are also represented. There's also international prison news briefs and thoughts about rights issues that prisoners could organize around. (S-10)

PRISON NEWS SERVICE #23 (Donation from PSC Publishers, PO Box 5052, Sta. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1E4, CANADA): International prison news with an emphasis on revolutionary and class-struggle prisoners. From the released Nelson Mandela to the still-imprisoned John Perotti they take a strong stand against the government. As part of this paper they include **THE MARIONETTE**, with reports on the situation at USP Marion, probably the worst prison in the US. (T-8t)

PROFANE EXISTENCE #3 ($1.50 from PO Box 8722, Minneapolis, MN 55408): Anarchy and music together in one punk package that's getting better although still in the struggling for money stage. There's been some intense discussion of problems in the punk scene and the historical relations of Communists and anarchists in the past few issues. #3 also has interviews with Media Children and Apocalypse and articles on El Salvador and women's health. (S-32t)

□**THE PROFESSIONAL QUILTER** #27 ($4 from Oliver Press, PO Box 75277, St. Paul, MN 55175-0277): I've always said there are publications for everyone; here's one for people who make quilts, and it's excellently done and interesting even for someone like me who can barely sew on a button. The theme of "Making a Living With Quilting" runs through many articles in this issue, but they also find space to talk about shipping quilts, quilt show judging, the place of quilts in the contemporary arts world, and more. I'm impressed. (S-24t)

PROGRESSIVE PRAGMATIST Vol. IV #5-6 ($12/yr from Nicholas J. Nigro Jr., 3214 Tibbett Ave., Bronx, NY 10463): A journal of more or less liberal political commentary, tending towards the school of skewering everyone. #5 worries about the potential President Quayle, looks at the tarnished Senator Kennedy, and discusses John Gotti's latest escape from justice. Plenty of thoughtful writing here. (S-12)

□**PROPER BOSKONIAN** May 1990 ($2 or The Usual from NESFA, Box G, MIT Branch PO, Cambridge, MA 02139): The science fiction zine of the New England Science Fiction Association, revived after a long hiatus. It's got con reports and Star Trek parodies, cartoonists' conceptions for the Hugo and serious articles on neglected authors, and even a feature on sushi chefs. Many of the articles came in over the computer networks, since NESFA is a quite computer-literate bunch. (S-46t)

□**THE PROTECTORATE** #1 ($1 from David Moore, PO Box 1085, Glen Ellen, CA 95442): A new zine meant to be a forum to encourage the growth of new ideas. There are speculations here about evolution and alien intelligences, open-ended poetry, and a piece or two on revolution and what it might mean. Rather ill-developed as yet, but with sparks that might be fanned into something interesting. (S-32)

PRO WRESTLING TORCH #65-69 ($1.25 from Wade Keller, PO Box 201844, Minneapolis, MN 55420): #66 of this wrestling gossip, news and humor sheet is mostly focused on Wrestlemania VI, where of course Hulk Hogan lost his title to the Ultimate Warrior. They print both serious ratings of the match and some silliness about an alleged angle. Every issue comes with a color cover photo. (S-8)

PSYCHIC PATHWAYS Vol. 8 #4 ($15/yr from PO Box 418, Woodmere, NY 11598): A small New Agish publication without too much meat to it. This issue has an opening editorial about opening to the Universal Mind, and then proceeds to an interior which is mainly ads. Little things like a chart relating the chakras to various drug addictions are tucked in too. (S-6)

□**PULP** #16 (The Usual from Avedon Carol & Rob Hansen, 144 Plashet Grove, East Ham, London E6 1AB, UK; those sending trades are requested to send a second copy to the co-editor, John Harvey, 8 The Orchard, Tonwell, Herts SG12 0HR, UK): A SF zine which is very much into the traditional fanzine mode, and likely impenetrable to those not used to the conventions used. Speaking of conventions, Rob presents some impressions of LA Con, while Chuch Harris indulges in "Creative Random History". There is a longish lettercol studded with names I recognize as premier fanwriters also. (Q-35)

PUNCHLINE #5 ($1.85 from PO Box 460683, San Francisco, CA 94146): A collection of stark strong graphics from an anti-system perspective, very black, sort of similar in tone to **MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL**. For example, one page is simply large letters saying "History will show our stupidity in claiming a victory" with the smaller notation "Poster to be displayed on all remnants of and memorials to the Berlin wall." Most of the material in this issue has an anti-war theme. (S-40t)

PUNKPALS Apr.-May 1990 (2 25¢ stamps from Robert Brown, 2331 Blake St. #204, Berkeley, CA 94704): A pen-pal listing for folks interested in new music. They're not interested in voyeurs; to get a copy you should include your name and address for a listing in the next issue, as well as a list of your favorite bands and a general comment about what you're like and who you'd like to write. (D-12)

PWALIVE Vol. 3 #2 ($5 donation/yr from PO Box 10034, Minneapolis, MN 55458-3034): "A newsletter by, for and about persons affected by AIDS". They tend to take a fairly holistic approach to the subject of healing, while carefully avoiding the idea that if you're sick it's your own damned fault. The issue at hand seems to have a very spiritual bent, fueled by memories of several recently dead men. They also publish an extensive list of resources in the Minneapolis area. (S-24t)

PYROTECHNICS #44/45 (8 25¢ stamps from PO Box 217, West Chicago, IL 60185): A double issue of this zine for SF fans who are into technical toys. There's cold fusion satire, a technical article on how to receive NASA broadcasts on your satellite dish, the story of an IRS computer auction, and even plans for a portable laser rifle. Perfect for the person who won't leave home without six dozen boxes of miscellaneous electronic gizmos. (S-20t)

QT'S ENTERTAINER #16 ($1,75 from 670 Providence St., Woonsocket, RI 02895): A magazine for people who are interested in regular fan clubs—Editor Connie Watson lists a lot of contacts for such. She also devotes space in each issue to one particular show; this time around it's "Hunter", with profiles of the main characters. In addition, there are household advice and cooking columns, a page of jokes, and other things to lighten your day. (HL-20r)

QUANTUM #36 ($3 from 8217 Langport Terr., Gaithersburg, MD 20877): Formerly **THRUST**, this SF zine continues to be one of the best reviews in the field. The standout in this issue is an article by Nancy Etchemendy on the harrowing process of being on the Nebula jury. Gene Wolfe wanders through a recent work by Laffery, Darrell Schweitzer interviews James Morrow, and of course there are handfuls of book reviews. (S-30t)

THE QUAYLE QUARTERLY Vol. 1 #2 ($3.95 from PO Box 8593, Brewster Station, Bridgeport, CT 06605): I feel almost guilty about enjoying this one. I mean, making fun of our Vice President is the humorous equivalent of dynamiting fish; there's no sport in it. Nevertheless, these people track all the malapropisms of our veep, and present them here along with sundry serious news, the Quayle income tax return, and even a photo of that infamous doll. (S-16t)

QUEST FOR SEX ($2 from Popular Reality, 1264 Creal Cres., Ann Arbor, MI 48103): A new collection of (mostly previously printed) Marginal texts from the long-vanished **POPULAR RELAITY**. Bob Black, Hakim Bey, Eel Leonard aka Al Ackerman, Thom Metzger, and other underground writers are here, ranting about subjects from work to the New Age. There are also ads for a handful of unusual things including other works in print from PopReal. (D-20r)

QUIMBY #20 ($3 from PO Box 281, Astor Sta., Boston, MA 02123): A magazine of bizarre artwork, strange stories, and who knows what else. This time it's trading cards, with color Quimby comics cards on heavy stock as an insert and reproductions of others from such sets as "Ohio Attacks" and ""Fight the Red Menace". Geary Kaczorowski contributes a short story with punch, while Mic McInnis reviews tattoo magazines. (S-48t)

□**RADDLE MOON** #8 ($8/2 issues from 9060 Ardmore Dr., Sidney, BC V8L 3S1, CANADA): A chewy and densely written literary journal, featuring many works which fall beyond the normal range of writing and yet are not simply formless experimentalism. Nevertheless, these texts—whether prose, poetry or even criticism—demand *work* fro the reader, which in some cases is amply repaid. Monty Reid's poem "Blizzard Walks", with its open feeling and use of white space, was such a work for me. Other contributors include Gerald Burns, Hilary Clark, and Lisa Robertson. (D-109t)

RADIO VOID #10 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 5983, Providence, RI 02903): The litmag that dares to use four-point type...but don't worry, that's only in the credits, the stories and poems are quite readable. There's a cute bit of SF humor from Marthayn Pelegrimas, a modern faux pas from Jonathan Thomas, and cartoons by Ace Backwords. Denise Dee and Oberc contribute their own brands of razor-sharp writing. Lots more here as well, from photos to a play. (S-48t)

THE RAMPANT GUINEA PIG #9 ($3 from Mary Ann Hodge, 20500 Enadia Way., Canoga Park, CA 91306): A collection of fantasy stories of various sorts, including but certainly not limited to Christian-influenced stories. A pair of offerings in this issue—Connie Evener's "The Fisherwoman and Her Husband" and Barbara Rosen's "Three Wishes"—tackle the age-old story of wishing for happiness in new and fun ways. (S-28t)

THE RAT RACE RECORD #7 ($1 from Conny Jasper, PO Box 1611, Union, NJ 07083): A zine that picks up on all sorts of stories. #7 for example, looks at the evidence on osteoporosis and the basics of shamanism. There's also a few pieces on the limits of nonviolence as a tool for social change. (S-20)

THE REALIST #112 ($2 from PO Box 1230, Venice, CA 90294): Paul Krassner has been needling the Establishment for decades now and he's not about to stop. This issue has excerpts from Noriega's secret diary, revealing the truth about Ollie North, drugs, George Bush and the Panamanian invasion. There's Country Joe MacDonald writing about the FUCK cheer he used to lead, new religious ideas, and the usual medley of the insane and amusing from the American scene. (S-8t)

REALITY SANDWICH #9-10 ($1 from c/o PO Box 976, Adelphi, MD 20783): Raucous desktop-published political commentary. #9 goes after Dan Quayle a couple of times, and darkly predicts that the US population will get bored without the invasion of the week. They also dabble in bumper stickers and other paraphernalia. #10 has the news that census takers are getting blown away and a nasty Earth Day ad satire, plus broccoli recipes from the White House. (S-6t)

RED & BLACK #19 ($5/yr from J. Grancharoff, PO Box 115, Enmore, NSW, AUSTRALIA 2042): A mainly theoretical journal of anarchism with a collection of articles from all over. Topics in #19 include the anarchist view of the recent upheaval in socialist countries, the resurgence of the IWW, and the futility of trying to bring about social change by throwing bombs. (A5-44t)

RELIGION WATCH Vol. 5 #6-7 ($17.50/11 issues from Richard P. Cimino, PO Box 652, North Bellmore, NY 11710): A survey of modern mainstream and fringe religious trends assembled from Richard's reading of a great number of religious periodicals. He picks up on trends from all over; #7 includes speculations on the effects of baby boomers on US churches, emerging religious tensions in Eastern Europe and the growth of the Nation of Islam. (S-10)

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ALERT Vol. VI #2-3 ($20/yr from Coalition for Religious Freedom, 515 Wythe St. #201, Alexandria, VA 22314): Church and state news from the point of view of the churches. They cover a great many legal and legislative actions, with particular attention to the rights of smaller denominations who they feel are improperly labelled as cults. The misdeeds of the Cult Awareness Network continue to come in for scrutiny here. (S-16t)

THE RELUCTANT FAMULUS Mar. 1990 ($1.50 or The Usual from T.D. Sadler, 422 W. Maple Ave., Adrian, MI 49221): A SF zine that seems to be developing a personality by the simple process of experimentation. There's some attractive material this time around, notably an article from Steve Antczak on the ins and outs of rejection slips and a satirical plot for another *Star Trek* movie. The lettercol is full of BNFs and looking interesting. (S-34)

RESEARCHER Vol. 3 #6 ($3 from Wiswell Ruffin House, PO Box 1449, Temecula, CA 92390): A newsletter of Holocaust Revisionism and bigotry against Jews. This time the entire issue is taken up by "Hollywood's Racist Hatemongers", alleging that the Jewish-controlled entertainment industry makes lots of movies that promote hatreds of Aryans but none that reveal Jewish crimes. (S-8t)

☐**RETHINKING MARXISM** Vol. 2 #4 ($24/yr from PO Box 85, Newtown Centre, MA 02159): A scholarly journal for people who are trying to extend Marxist/Marxian analyses to modern situations. The main section of this issue is devoted to a proposed Marxist-Feminist analysis of the household, bring class analysis through the front door and into the kitchen, together with comments from some theorists who question this approach. Kai Neilsen also provides an interesting look at various conceptualizations of ideology, and they have a "Remarx" section for shorter, less technical articles as well as book reviews. Firmly in the tradition of academic writing, but a journal that I found thoughtful and even useful to browse through (D-205t)

☐**REVIEWS UNLIMITED** #1 ($1 from Boxholder, PO Box 581, Seattle, WA 98111): A zine of reviews, mainly of comics though with some other zines and a couple pages of music thrown in. The reviews are descriptive but longer than those I do—as a result they don't get too many things in. A foldout poster includes photocopied examples of the artwork from some things they reviewed. (M-24)

RFD #60-61 ($4.25 from PO Box 68, Liberty, TN 37095): "A Country Journal for Gay Men Everywhere". They focus on rural lifestyles, radical faerie spirituality, and male images in general. Recent discussions have gone into urban paganism, man-boy love, writing to prisoners, cooking (nettle quiche) and much more. There's a very appealing open feeling to the whole project, and a lot of men exploring their own lives and getting in touch with themselves and others. (S-64t)

RINGSIDE REFLECTOR Vol. 3 #31 ($2 from J.D. McKay, Jr., Rte. 2 Box 291, Louisville, MS 39339): A wrestling bulletin with a rather low-key graphic look but some interesting articles nonetheless. The editor seems to be involved in various political feuds within the wrestling fan community which I dimly (at best) grasp, but this doesn;t keep him from also writing about wrestling. Long essays rather than short news bits are the rule here. (S-22)

RING WORMS & RIGHTEOUS BABE SUSHI #18 ($1 from Jeff Mullins, PO Box 36189, San Jose, CA 95158): The title is perhaps one of the *least* confusing things about this wrestling bulletin. Between making fun of promotions, making fun of other bulletins, and making fun of themselves, it's hard to know where reality stops. Wild news, fun letters, and opinionated columnists give this one a unique but strong flavor. (S-10r)

☐**A RIOT OF EMOTIONS!** #1 ($2 from Andy C., 1 St. John's View, Boston Spa, Wetherby, West Yorkshire, LS23 6NQ, UK): A little bit of everything from the British scene. There's poetry and song lyrics (including an anti-Clause 28 ballad), artwork and reviews, collage and cultural satire. The review section has contact addresses for a lot of zines I've never seen, if you have the time and money to follow up. (A5-28r)

THE ROGUE RAVEN #40 (The Usual from Frank Denton, 14654 - 8th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98166): This is Frank's perzine, intended to keep him in touch with friends old and new. You probably have to know him or have a strong interest in books to make much of this. A relaxing trip through carving turkeys, ghost stories, bibliography, old magazines and more. (S-10)

ROLLERCOASTER! Vol. IX #2 ($30/4 issues from American Coaster Enthusiasts, PO Box 8226, Chicago, IL 60680): A magazine for people who love roller coasters. It's loaded with first-hand accounts, color photos, and notes on conventions and activities for coaster enthusiasts. Even I, a confirmed coasterphobe, enjoyed the article on the technological wizardry that keeps these things running safely. (S-32t)

ROLLER SPORTS REPORT #4-5 ($10/6 issues from Fred Argoff, 1800 Ocean Pkwy., Brooklyn, NY 11223): A zine for fans of the various "banked-track sports"—Roller Derby being an example, but only one of many. They report on the various business maneuverings involved with the attempt to bring this sport back to TV popularity,

ROLLER SPORTS REPORT

Remember the roller derby?
Believe it or not, the skate game
hasn't died--and this magazine is
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For a sample issue, rush $1.75 to:

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and also print articles on good skaters from the past. Plenty of opinion and trivia in these pages. (D-16)

□**ROSEBUDS** Vol. 4 #3 ($20/yr from Tiffany Club of New England, PO Box 2283, Woburn, MA 01888-0483): Tiffany Club is a support group for Cross Dressers, Transvestites and Transsexuals, as well as their partners. They hold many events to encourage people to be comfortable with their own sexuality, as well as to address the unique problems of being a biological male dressed as a female in our society (the reverse does not seem to be as common). Gentle and caring. (S-12t)

THE RUNNING DINOSAUR #6 (Send stamps to Ralph E. Vaughan, 353 Oxford St., Chula Vista, CA 92011): A personal newsletter, some of which is devoted to the projects of Ralph's Running Dinosaur Press. But he goes beyond this to review books new and old, travel a bit, and reprint a specimen of paper money featuring dinosaurs. (S-6)

RURAL MISSOURI Apr. May 1990 ($3.19/yr from 2722 E. mcCarty, Jefferson City, MO 65101): A tabloid for folks in Rural Electric Cooperatives in Missouri, but they talk about lots of things besides updating the wiring in your old house. In May, for example, there are articles on stoneware collecting, an outfit that builds museum dioramas, and balancing energy and environmental needs. (T-20t)

RURAL NETWORK ADVOCATE #75-76 ($10/yr from Rt. 2 Box 150B, Gays Mills, WI 54631): "The Advocate serves as an instrument for interesting people to introduce themselves to an audience which will appreciate knowing that single, country-oriented people survive and thrive". Members (for an additional fee) can exchange profiles confidentially with one another. Meanwhile the **ADVOCATE** is full of stories of country life. Recycling is a minor theme in #75; one member recycled an entire tennis court, another a 35th birthday. (S-8)

RURAL SOUTHERN VOICE FOR PEACE #49-50 (Donation from 1901 Hannah Branch Rd., Burnsville, NC 28714): A newsletter for people who are deeply committed to peace and excited to be doing things for it. #49 leads off with a first-person account of gardening and tax resistance. Later there are articles about stopping another nuke train, garbage disposal, cooperation with the Russians. Inspiring stuff. (S-16t)

□**SACC** #56 ($1 from Box 22, Padangtiji, Sigli 24161, Aceh, INDONESIA): A pen-pal listing which will print your particulars and photos for free. It's a mix of English and Indonesian, but notes that all ads are from people who can read English. The concentration is there, but there are folks from all over the world. (D-12r)

THE SACRED RECORD Apr. 1990 [sacred](Donation from Star Rt. #1, Box 7x, Willcox, AZ 85643): The newsletter of the Peyote Way Church of God, a group working towards getting everyone the same right to practice their religious beliefs that the Native American Church has—i.e., the sacramental use of peyote. This issue reports the latest legal news and has an interesting article on sugar and why it is bad for you. (S-8)

SACRIFICE THE COMMON SENSE #3 ($2 (?) from Humberto Gomez Sequeira-HuGoS, 1251 S. Magnolia Ave. # 15, Los Angeles, CA 90006): A medley of artistic and literary work. They lead off with an abortion rights article and close with a plea for condom use.. In between there are people, the earth being raped, anti-capitalist poetry, ideological art, and who knows what else. (S-32)

SAMHAIN #20 ($4 [cash preferred] from 19 Elm Grove Road, Topsham, Exeter, Devon, EX3 0EQ, UK): A horror zine that covers all angles, from movies (Wes Craven interview) to writing (Peter Straub) to home video release reviews. They have slick paper, color covers, lots of photos, and a pro look. New and gossip leads off, there's a page of zine reviews, classified from collectors, and a look back at the original *Friday the 13th*. A very class act. (A4-36t)

□**SANDSTORM** Vol. 2 #1 ($1 & SASE from Gregory McNamee, 1128 E. Tenth St., Tucson, AZ 85719): An "occasional screed" from a longtime FF subscriber. This issue is basic lessons on how to spot political doublespeak and lying, with examples from Nixon, Ollie North, George Bush and other masters of the art. (S-2t)

SAN JUAN HORSESHOE Vol. 14 #3 ($12/yr from PO Box 513, Montrose, CO 81402): All manner of silliness and humor from the Telluride Mountain area, which may have some true facts slipped in somewhere (though they're not apparent to this Easterner). Everything from the local St. Patrick's Day parade to the Museum of Western Junk graces this issue. The editorial matter is always a joy to read as well. (T-24t)

□**SANS GARDE** #1 ($1 (?) from Noah Bunnett, 82 Willow #46, Toronto, ONT, M4E 3K2, CANADA): A new zine of social and environmental issues, put out by a group of students calling themselves the Resistance for Life Forum. They cover a lot of ground: juice boxes, the Innu nation, assassinations in Columbia, the Exxon Valdez. In addition to articles there is plenty of art plus some poetry, as well as an outstanding sense of outraged commitment. (S-16r)

SASQUATCH #Seven (50¢ from The Prime Minister (of Livestock and Heavy Machinery), PO Box 126, Milford, ME 04461): A zine of humor and nihilism. In this issue the Prime Minister tries to explain the difference between active and passive nihilism, considers the problem of evil, and prints another story involving eels. The latter are a recurrent them, especially the one named Lester. (S-6t)

□**SCANDAL SHEET** Vol. 1 #2-3 ($1 (?) from 7210 Jordan Ave. #A56, Canoga Park, CA 91303): A satirical comic paper that goes well beyond the bounds of good taste. In #2, their targets include Sly Stallone and Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker; #3 goes after Ted Kennedy's account of Chappaquiddick, Roseanne, and General Noriega. Fat jokes, sexual innuendo, and a somewhat slapdash drawing style combine to make this reminiscent of MAD but more offensive. (T-24)

SCAREAPHANALIA #87-88 ($7.50/yr from Michael Gingold, 55 Nordica Dr., Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520): A clockwork-regular film zine, with the emphasis strictly on horror movies. In #87 Michael chats with Frank Henenlotter, the man who brought us *Basket Case* and *Brain Damage*. #88 includes a roundup of other filmzines, with dozens of entries for the dedicated movie hound. (HL-8r)

SCAVENGER'S NEWSLETTER #74-75 ($1.50 from Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City, KS 66523-1329): *The* market guide for anyone trying to break into the sf/fantasy/horror small press, and handy for mainstream press notes as well. Janet lists new markets, notes changes in old ones, invites editors and writers to discuss the business, and tracks response times. Guest reviewers look at some markets in greater depth. A great resource. (D-30r)

SCHMAGA Vol. 1 #3 ($1 from Jim Kern, 436 Indiana St., Vallejo, CA 94590): A medley of material, from an ancient dowsing manual to the story of a trip to New York to find the Dakota which resulted in getting lost in a fish hatchery. There's a surreal short story, a real-life murderous religious cult, and classic woodcut illustrations. A fine production, even if there seems to be no common thread between pages. (D-40)

□**SCHMUTZ** #1 ($2 (?) from Merrill Friedman, 1211 Ditmas Ave., Bronx, NY 11218): A collection of silly articles (one analyzing the sexual content of bubblegum pop, one the script to an offensive *Gilligan's Island* episode) and bizarre comics that seem to owe a lot in their artistic style to the early undergrounds. Hit and miss as far as laughs go, and determined to be in poor taste a large chunk of the time. (S-32)

□**SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE** Feb.-Apr. 1990 ($27/12 issues from PO Box 2730, Brooklyn, NY 11202-0056): A wide-ranging zine of science fiction reportage, which covers not only new books but the people who read them. Editor Andrew Porter publishes obituaries, birthdays and gossip, along with reviews of books, cover pictures from new releases, and release schedules. Fan politics and conventions get in here as well. A fine guide to the breadth of traditional fandom. (S-40t)

SCIENCE FICTION EYE #6 ($10/3 issues from PO Box 43244, Washington, DC 20010-9244): A lovely and exciting magazine of new science fiction, anchored somewhat in cyberpunk but wandering around the map. They're not lukewarm about anything, bestowing bricks where they're deserved as well as praise, and unlike some other critical SF zines, SF EYE sounds like it was written by people rather than academic chowderheads. Check out Misha's Points of Impact, Paul Di Filippo's view of the works of Iain Banks, Charles Platt on the book business, Joan Gordon on cyberpunk feminism, and much more. (S-72t)

SCORE REVIEW #26-31 ($2/4 issues from 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): A series of one-sheet reviews of material from the fields of experimental art, poetry, and literature. #26, for example, has a 20th Century reading list from Ed Mycue, while Bob Grumman discusses an experioddical haiku in #31.(S-2)

SCORE SHEET #38-40 ($2/4 issues from 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): This one exists as a complement to **SCORE REVIEW**, publishing experioddical work, notably visual and concrete poetry. #38, for example, includes Charley George's "peanuts discover each other as butter", in which the words run through a grinder to emerge rather homogenized. (S-2)

□**SCROLL OF OPLONTIS** Vol. 3 #1 ($3 from PO Box 1036, Beloit, WI 53511): A pagan zine directed at those most interested in the pantheons and spiritual lives of the Greeks and Romans. The zine reads something like an archaeological journal, with photographs of temples and sculpture from antiquity, reconstructed floor plans, and speculations on the buildings" uses. (S-24)

THE SECOND STONE #9-10 $12.60/yr from PO Box 8340, New Orleans, LA 70182): A national newspaper for gay and lesbian Christians and other sympathetic people. They carry a great deal of news about ministries both supporting and repressive, as well as feature articles. Solid reporting and a compassionate attitude combine well here. (T-20t)

SECRET ARCHIVE #2 ($3 from Jason Cohen, 831 E. McKinney, Denton, TX 76201): For $4 you can get the deluxe edition, which includes a baggie with a piece of the Berlin Wall in it. Either way, the printed work here is a mix of collage, gruesome comics, and distressing little short stories. For those who already believe the world is a bizarre and greedy place, this one will cater nicely to your ideas. (S-28)

SF CONVENTION REGISTER Spring 1990 ($1.50 from Erwin S. Strauss, PO Box 3343, Fairfax, VA 22038): The most comprehensive listing there is of science fiction conventions, from little one-day one-city affairs to the gargantuan Worldcons. Strauss gives place, date, hotel, prices and contacts for everything, and reports on bids as well as actually scheduled conventions. (S-22r)

THE SHADOW #10 ($2 from PO Box 20298, New York, NY 10009): A feisty radical paper from New York's Lower East Side. They are especially active in homeless and squatting concerns, documenting names and monetary ties of people involved in gentrification and profiteering., They also track undercover cops, struggle against RCP takeover of homeless actions, and generally act as a thorn in a lot of sides. News you won't find anywhere else. (T-24t)

THE SHAMAN PAPERS Vol. 2 #1 ($1.50 *stamps* from Wade Greyfox, 907 Iroquois Ct., Harrisburg, PA 17109): A small networking newsletter on shamanism. This issue opens with some notes on crystals excerpted from Harner's book on shamanism, and goes on from there to review some other works and make notes on who is and who is not authentic. (L-6)

SHAREWARE MAGAZINE Vol. IV #2-5 ($20/6 issues from PC-SIG, 1030D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086): A slick magazine that tracks the shareware field—computer software that you can try before you buy, which is most of the software you'll find reviewed in FF. #5 is a fine issue, with an interview with shareware pioneer Jim Button, surveys of lottery software, and of course a list of additions to the PC-SIG shareware catalog. Recommended for the IBM-compatible user on a budget. (S-48t)

SHENANDOAH NEWSLETTER Vol. 17 #1-2 ($10/yr from 736 W. Oklahoma St., Appleton, WI 54914): A native American newsletter which covers actions from all over, into South and Central America as well as the US and Canada. They are good at short notices of current problems, and argue for a strong and independent Native American culture. (S-21)

□**SHOOTING STAR** #3 ($3 from Donna Cunningham, 727 President St., Brooklyn, NY 11215): I'm constantly surprised at zines which seem to have a wide appeal which seem to me to be super-specialized. This is one such. It's aimed at people who are interested in "integrating astrology & flower remedies" (the latter being essences for healing, starting with the Bach remedies but expanded since then). They're into the proper times for planting, how to use the remedies well, and similar holistic healing subjects. A nice looking package. (S-24t)

SHOTS #20 ($2 from 304 S. 4th St., Danville, KY 40422): I think of this as a photography journal for the rest of us; Editor Dan Price presents photos in an unpretentious format that seems to encourage participation. This time around the main chunk is devoted to "Girls, Girls, Girls", but it's a lot more thoughtful that that might indicate to kneejerk folks. Fun and honest work. (S-56)

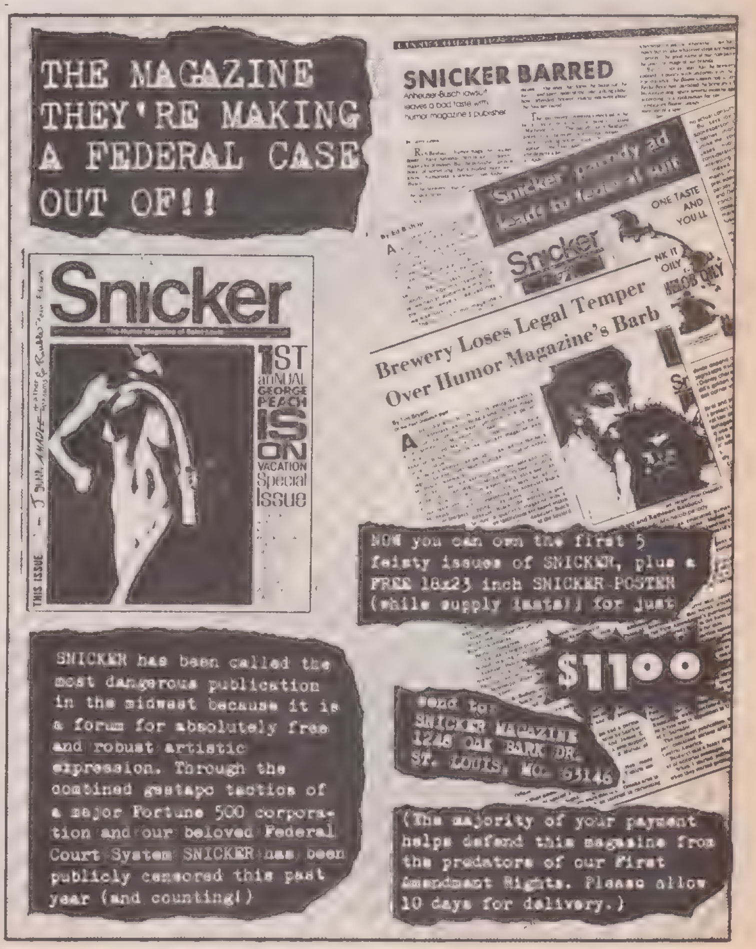
□**SIN BROS.** #2-4 ($2 from W.K., PO Box 618, N. Hollywood, CA 91603): A new zine for the young media-oriented gay male. The list nudity in the movies worth watching out for, bop around the club scene, print pictures of pretty boys, discuss drag queen earthquake preparedness, and let you know which gyms your favorite porn stars are pumping iron at. Lavender zines are picking up these days. (HL-40t)

THE SKELETON QUARTERLY #11 ($2 from Phil Lollar, PO Box 411021, San Francisco, CA 94141-0121): A collection of collages, comics, and strange writing. Party fiction, AIDS revisionism, fashion cut-ups, screwball sex and the underground media are among the concerns now. Phil has collected work from all over, and it's an uncohesive but fun stew. (S-32)

SLINGSHOT #34 (50¢ from 700 Eshleman Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720): A radical paper that covers the Berkeley and Bay Area scene in a fashion not seen on the national news. This issue reports on the latest University plans for more development, argues against sexism in The Movement, and suggests cheap ways to survive. (T-8t)

SMALL PRESS REVIEW Vol. 22 #3 ($18/yr from Dustbooks, PO Box 100, Paradise, CA 95967): A monthly roundup of the literary small press scene, with reviews and listings for contests and new litmags. Maybe I'm finally getting tied in; #3 included many whose work I know (McKinnon, Beasley, Dilsaver, Knight) and even a few things that we reviewed first. (S-16t)

□**SNICKER** #5 1/2 ($1 from Balducci Publications, 2300-B S. 10th St., St. Louis, MO 63104): This humor tabloid has managed to get in trouble already, being sued by Anheuser-Busch for their "Michelob Oily" parody ad on the back of this issue (referring to a messy spill in the local river). Lots of funny cartoons, Siskel and Ebert review the Zapruder Film in a stunning display of bad taste, and there's an interview with artist Michael Lynch who did the "community standards" version of their last nude cover for the front of #5 1/2.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NOTHING #4 ($1 (?) from PO Box 2487, Bellingham, WA 98227): This "Special art-look issue" is stapled diagonally giving the pages strange shapes; it works well about 50% of the time, though you have to keep turning it to read everything. There's an interview with Some Velvet Sidewalk and one with the Purdins and one with Stagnant Water. Record and zine reviews focus on the local scene. (D-40r)

THE OBLIGATOR Vol. III #2 ($1 from Mark Hodges, PO Box 915, Muskegon, MI 49443-0915): A zine that combines music and Christianity, with explicit attention to both halves—they're as interested in what it takes to be a good Christian as in what it takes to make good music. Besides reviews, #2 has a rather shallow article condemning Nietzsche (apparently not based on any extensive reading of his works), a chat with the vocalist from Vengeance Rising, and a discussion with Leithal. (S-12r)

THE OCEAN Vol. 1 #3-4 ($2 from Jay O'Toole, 46 Briarwood Dr., Westwood, MA 02090): A music zine for collectors of Led Zeppelin material. They cover soundboard recordings, bootleg tapes and professional boots, and print reviews of the material as well as trade lists. There's also the occasional coverage of folks from Led Zeppelin and what they're up to now. (S-12)

OPTION #32 ($15/6 issues from Sonic Options Network, 2345 Westwood Blvd. #2, Los Angeles, CA 90064): The picture of David Byrne on this cover is likely to promote further grumbles from those who think **OPTION** has sold out, but it continues to present a wide variety of artists for public scrutiny: Death of Samantha, KRS-1, Evan Parker and Linton Kwesi Johnson also feature in this issue. Slick, selective, but still with a core of innovative new music. (S-138t)

OUTER SHELL #54 (SASE from 9807 61st Ln. N, Pinellas Park, FL 34666-3131): A music zine that seems to have grown permanently to 4 pages, and which still focuses each issue (more or less) on a topic. #54 is devoted to Alice Cooper, along with some Ace Backwords cartoons and assorted other madness. (S-4r)

OUTLET #39 ($5 from Trev Faull, 33 Aintree Crescent, Barkingside, Ilford, IG6 2HD, Essex, UK): Back after too long an absence is this wonderful idiosyncratic music zine. Trev seems to know every obscure fact possible about modern music, and delights in rearranging them. This issue has the start of an article on Zoogz Rift, a selection of recent Residents material, and lots and lots of reviews. (A4-28r)

PAGAN ISOLATION #6 (25¢ postage from N. 3417 Molter Rd., Otis Orchards, WA 99027): A zine that's mostly record and tape reviews, with a punk/hardcore emphasis. There's a story of skate rebellion reprinted from **THRASHER**, a comic, and some short political bits here as well. Focus is on the Northwest. (D-20r)

□**PARTY FEARS** #9-11 ($5 for 1 or $7 for 3 from David Gerard, 17 Simper St., Wembley 6014, AUSTRALIA): Those prices are in U.S. dollars and include air postage. The zine coversrock in Western Australia (mostly, though they also glom onto groups that wander by) and is marked by tight writing and good analysis. #9 and 10 each include extensive family trees of local bands, which gave good snapshots of the scene. #11 has interviews with Black-Eyed Susans, Martha's Vineyard, Celibate Rifles, Rabbit's Wedding, and more. A very solid effort. (A4-36r)

□**PETTINE GIGANTE** #1 (50¢ from 534 S. Cortez., New Orleans, LA 70119): I guess this is a music zine; at least, some of the handwritten scrawls are band reviews. Other pages include a slightly altered story about Jane Pauley, swiped from some major magazine, and scribbly art with pseudo-academic commentary. Why? (D-8)

THE PIT #5 ($2 from PO Box 9545, Colorado Springs, CO 80932): This one has added a full-color cover to this issue (with Soundgarden, the main feature, on it) and lots of pages inside—looking good. They do a lot of short stories on a lot of noisy bands: Warlock Pinchers, King Diamond, Sick of It All, Intruders, Sepultura and plenty more in #5. There's also a pile of reviews and the amazing Mosh Pit record catalog, a good source for punk and metal by mail (catalog available separately for SASE). (S-50t)

THE PLAGUE #5 ($2.50 from PO Box 2038, Eugene, OR 97402): A "Northwest Heavy metal Fanzine", which sums up its focus nicely. Voivod is the big news in this issue, but there are plenty of other

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interviews: Killing Time, Dead On, X-Piracy, Scatterbrain, and others. Reviews are sprinkled throughout, some of which show they know there is music beyond the core of super-heavy metal. (S-36)

POISON PLANET #2 ($3 from Ty Smith, 722 W. Melbourne, Peoria, IL 61604): A fat punk/hardcore fanzine with a ton of interviews, about fifteen of them. These include Sadistic Intent, Brotherhood, Functional Idiots, Skeletal Earth, Impetigo and many more. Questions of racism and social conscience are discussed at length in some of these. There's also plenty of reviews, some art, opinion pages and more. Ambitious. (S-60r)

POSITIVELY ENTERTAINMENT & DINING Vol. 14 #2-4 ($15/yr from Crooked Arrow Publishing Co., PO Box 16009, Portland, OR 97216): A guide to the nightlife of Portland that covers music of all genres. They're strongest in blues, folk and other fairly traditional musics, but they do list most everything short of hardcore. They also print a lot of schedule and other information for folks looking for a place to go out for the evening. (T-12t)

□**POST NO BILLS** Vol. 1 #1-2 (50¢ from Linda McAlppine, PO Box 758, Normal, IL 61761): A new music zine co-edited by Linda with Don Palermini II. They mostly review college radio music, but with a broad interpretation of that genre that includes some relatively unknown groups as well as folks like Mudhoney. #2 has an interview with Betsy from Caterwaul. Nice clean look to it and a friendly attitude too; like sitting in a dorm room and shooting the breeze about music. (D-12t)

THE PSYCHEDELICATESSEN #4 ($2 (?) from Purple Cactus Productions, PO Box 121, Tucson, AZ 85702): A zine devoted to psychedelic music, whether from the sixties (they review some re-issues from those bygone days) or last week. This time they look back at the career of Thee Fourgiven, check out The Cynics, the new Who Tour, and Marshmallow Overcoat. With a heavy stock slick cover, this is a classy production. (S-24t)

PUPPETHEAD #2 ($1 from Derby, 159 Myrtle, Medford, MA 02155): I put this here on the strength of the Daniel Johnston cartoon and the Walter Egan interview, but the zine is really too diffuse to be so easily categorized. There's some short stories, a found poem (subway grafitti), comics, a talk with the bizarre Skip Henderson, and more. Very strange. (HL-32r)

RAGMAN ($1.50 from 1015 Wentworth, Green Bay, WI 54304): A music zine that does quit a few things to break out of the mold. This issue has a 3D cover (glasses included) and a free sticker, plus a good rundown of the zine scene from Green Bay complete with cover shots. There's also the usual zine features: interviews with Sick of It All and Sloppy Seconds, political rantings, new release and zine reviews. Pretty raucous in parts but fun. (S-24t)

□**RAMBLIN' ROSE** Vol. 1 #2 ($1.50 MO from Pierre Roussel, 2320 Terrasse Mercure 3rd Fl., Montreal, QUE, H2H 1R6, CANADA): A somewhat sloppy music zine with both French and English content. Bands in #2 include Ripcordz and 4 1/2 Reasons for Retroactive Abortion. Definitely from the punk ethos. (S-16)

RAMBLIN' WILLIE'S BROADSIDE Vol. 2 #1 (50¢ & a stamp from PO Box 642, Winterville, GA 30683): When Willie isn't rambling and playing his music he's at home writing, nice guy that he is. This issue has an article on some French singers, some stuff for Earth Day, and reviews of a couple of blues releases. (L-6t)

RECALCITRATE #4 (75¢ from Jesse, PO Box 4976, Albuquerque, NM 87196): A zine of music and social action. #4 has interviews with Cringer and Process of Elimination. There's also a few pages standing up against fascists, a quiz to determine if you're insane (zine editors are in trouble here) and some White Boy poetry. (D-20r)

□**RHEIN PEST** #1 (DM 1.50 from Sascha Wolff, Wegbergerstr. 22, 4000 Düsseldorf 11, WEST GERMANY): A new German-language music zine that proudly appeals to the baser instincts. In addition to their music stories (UK Subs and Molotow Soda get the most space in this inaugural issue), they have beer ratings, a do-it-yourself porn story, and lots of photos of people with very few clothes on. (A5-32r)

RIFF RAFF #7 ($1 (?) from Chris DiBeneditto, 14 Ridgeview Ave., Berlin, NJ 08009): A music zine that seems to be partial to metal and to European acts, but not exclusively in either case. Shotgun Messiah, D.A.D., Gwar and plenty more folks with long hair and loud noises liven up this issue. (S-16t)

□**THE ROC** #1 ($6/yr from Woods, 320 S. Cadiz St., Jewett, OH 43986): The title is an acronym for "Rock Out Censorship", and this is another zine trying to fight back against the PMRC. This first issue is a bit rocky, especially graphically, but it should improve with time. Plenty of info and news updates from all over come together here. (S-8)

ROCK & ROLL CONFIDENTIAL #77-78 ($24/yr from PO Box 15052, Long Beach, CA 9085): One of the few independent voices left in critiques of mainstream rock (as opposed to the strictly indie coverage of most zines). They're especially good in tracking corporate politics in the music world and have been leading the fight against music censorship. #78 slams the censors again and looks at the myth of "voluntary labeling". (S-8t)

□**SAUDADE** #1 ($3 from Gothic Cottage, High Street, South Moreton, Oxon OX11 9AD, ENGLAND): A new music zine which runs from classic rock to current favorites, Captain Beefheart to They Might Be Giants. There are side trips to Jack Kerouac and Frank Zappa's latest tour, the unreleased Barrett/Pink Floyd Tracks, and the ten most underrated rock artists of all time. If they can lick the problems with some of the small print being illegible this will be a winner. (A5-32r)

□**SCREAMING ROCK** #10 ($2 from Shauna Sky, 6105 S. Archer Rd., Summit, IL 60501): A music zine that focuses in on some heavy metal type bands, with Stalker prominent on the cover her and the big-hair boys of Odette also inside. They've got an article on the music business from the big time point of view, some reviews and an ad from an outfit running a correspondence club for musicians only. (S_22)

SECULAR HUMANIST TENDENCIES #4 ($1.25 from Ed Huyck, 16389 Gladiola Ave., Rosemount, MN 55068): A music zine that gets into a lot of social stuff as well, from Bob Z's fights with the poster police to Ernest Mann's ideas on living free. For interviews, try Bazooka Joe, Cringer, Process of Elimination and Destroy! Ace Backwords comics, a bit of poetry and some drawings liven up the corners. (D-32r)

SEXY #3 (25¢ from Kate Moeller, Rt. 2, Seymour, WI 54165): A short and somewhat silly zine from a scene that few people have ever heard from. They publish tips on getting more men involved in a female-dominated scene plus interviews with Rebel Waltz and Hellhound. A few reviews and a quiz and photos wrap it up. (D-16)

SHOCKWAVE #2 ($2 from PO Box 767, Reistertown, MD 21126): A music zine sporting a mix of interview/band stories and scene reports. On the latter front, there are pages from New York, Baltimore and LA. On the former, the Ramones get the cover photo, and inside there are also pieces on CycleSluts From Hell, Anacrusis, Soundgarden, XYZ and more. A nice selection of photos graces the slick back cover. (S-16t)

SKIDGE #3 ($1 *CASH* & 2 stamps from Mike Lupica, 76 Sapphire Ln., Franklin Park, NJ 08823): A music zine that's managing to get some decent interviews at this early stage. #3 includes Samiam (a band to keep an eye on, it looks like), Chicken Scratch, Poison Idea, and more. There's a whole page of ska news, some reviews and unfortunately a cover that looks pretty sexist though I doubt that was the intent. (S-20t)

SKULL SESSION #13-15 ($1 from Brad Mitchell, 3187 Keynes Ct., Mississauga, ONT, L5N 2Z7, CANADA): Mostly music, though there's other stuff here, notably the parade of popular comics altered to punk themes. They interview Sludge in #13, as well as F.U.C.T., Braindamage, and others. A couple of columnists rant about the political and social scene too. #15 has local pizza reviews and interviews with the editors of **HIPPYCORE** and **FACTSHEET FIVE**. (S-28)

SLUG AND LETTUCE #14-15 (SASE from Chris, 30 Newport Pkwy #409, Jersey City, NJ 07310): Lots of photos and a batch of short reviews, all tucked on to a single sheet. There's free classified ads, a handful of music reviews, somewhat more zine reviews. Henry Rollins shows up in a couple of classic poses in #14. (S-2r)

SMASHIN' THROUGH #4 ($1.50 from PO Box 1014, Yonkers, NY 10704): A punk zine that sticks pretty close to the original punk graphic ideals of being a real chore to read and presenting everything in a sort of high-contrast glare. In-depth chats with Corrosion of Conformity, Sheer Terror, Go! and Yuppiecide are the heard of the zine. They also review music and print a letter or two. (S-16r)

□**THE SNORB** #1 ($1 from 1605 Corsica Pl., Costa Mesa, CA anything other than SF. David Bratman gives advice to Brits visiting America, Leslie Holman ventures into **ELFQUEST FANDOM**, and Skel writes as only Skel can. There's further debate on lojban which leads into an extensive lettercol full of BNFs and just plain folks. Some traditions live on and are even reborn. (S-92)

TAP #98 (1 25¢ stamp from PO Box 20264, Louisville, KY 40250): A magazine for phone phreaks, hackers, and others interested in poking around modern communications technology. The bulk of #98 is taken up by a report on the annual conference of Hamburg's Chaos Computer Club. (D-8r)

TAPE UPDATE Vol. 2 #17-18 (50¢ from Brian Tramel, 1806 Self Cir. #B, Jonesboro, AR 72401): This is a combination catalog—Brian sells videotapes of wrestling matches, hundreds of them—and wrestling bulletin full of gossip and name-dropping. #17 is a special double issue costing $1, with a report from his recent vacation and an interview with Billy Apter as well as the usual letters and listings. (M-28r)

TARANIKI UNDERGROUND #20 ($16/4 issues from F.I.T.O. Press, PO Box 39, Oakura, Taraniki, NEW ZEALAND): An anarchist/punk zine that has a lot to say, both about the local scene and the wider world. They reprint material about feminism and censorship as well as punk, review zines, and discuss some of the local news. Drugs, sex and rock and roll also sneak into these pages. Free spirits. (O-10)

A TASTE OF BILE #8-9 ($1.75 *CASH* and age statement for 2 issues from PO Box 7150, Waco, TX 76714): A mostly-movie zine (they also review some books) concentrating on depravity and other nasty things. Torture, real S&M, Texas Chainsaws, and more, they're all here, critiqued on their gruesomeness as well as their plots. (D-12r)

☐**TATTOO ENTHUSIAST** Vol. 1 #1 ($8/yr from Midnight Tattoo, 7449 Berry Ln., Citrus Heights, CA 95610): A new tabloid devoted to tattooing and networking among tattoo fans in the Sacramento area. The offset printing is a bit muddy and doesn't really do justice to the work featured, but there are some nice pieces here. They list local artists, print some short tattoo fiction, and talk about what tattooing is like if you're just thinking of getting involved. (T-8t)

TEENAGE GANG DEBS #2 ($1 & 2 stamps from Erin and Don Smith, 5812 Midhill St., Bethesda, MD 20817): A fan magazine which concentrates on classic TV shows (My Three Sons, Partridge Family, Scooby Doo) and new music (Lunachicks, Redd Kross). This issue has a long look at Jan Brady's character and an interview with Stanley Livingston from My Three Sons. (S-20r)

TEEN PUNKS IN HEAT #3 ($3 *CASH/stamps* & Age Statement from PO Box 37, Prospect Heights, IL 60070): A sex zine from the punk underground. It's got hot fictional letters (or maybe they're not so fictional), drawings, even computer smut. In the centerfold editor Ben Weasel even drops his own pants, a move not equaled by mainstream smutmongers. (S-16r)

TEMPLE OF SCHLOCK #21 (75¢ from Chris Poggiali, 225 Mosley Dr., Syracuse, NY 13206): A small zine of gory movies, from the classic days of Universal Studios monster movies on up to *Texas Chainsaw Massacre III* (they liked the former better than the latter). Short reviews, Dave Szurek and a few more fanzine leads lurk inside. (D-8r)

THE TERRITORIAL HERALD No. I/II Vol. X ($1 from PO Box 7075, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677): The latest pronouncements from King Marc Eric Ely-Chatelaine as to the status of his "global federation of free household principalities", the changes in Eastern Europe, the plight of the homeless, and other topics. For more info send a stamp for their free introductory booklet. (HL-12r)

THE TEXAS OASIS Mar. 1990 (Donation from PO Box 7292, Austin, TX 78713): Austin-area Earth First!ers have been busy lately, blocking development by means legal and extralegal—as a result they are making an appeal in this issue for funds for legal defenses and fines. But they also report that a highway project has been delayed a year and a half, and a couple of other developments seriously hampered. Seems like a good tradeoff to a lot of people. (S-12t)

THE TEXAS SF INQUIRER #31 ($1.50 or The Usual from Fandom Association of Central Texas, PO Box 9612, Austin, TX 78766): A SF fanzine that seems to be coming back to life after a bobble a while ago. This issue leads off with a real-world editorial about mandatory recycling, than goes into more traditional fannish stuff such as book and zine reviews. There's the expected lettercol, a look at the future of SF&F art, and a report on a recent convention. (S-20)

TFYS #7 ($2 from Spartacus, PO Box 22551, Memphis, TN 38122-0551): The new issue of **THINK FOR YOURSELF SCHMUCK** is as bizarre and multi-leveled as ever. After a few pages of Spartacus recounting his own recent adventures—including a wild bus trip—we get off into other stuff. Besides new pieces, this includes reprints from Crowley and Robert Anton Wilson, underground comics and cyberpunk stories. Hard to imagine that anyone could read this and not suspect something better waits once you're turned on. (S-64)

THEY WON'T STAY DEAD #9 ($1 from Brian Johnson. 11 Werner Rd., Greenville, PA 16125): A friendly little zine of film and video reviews that would rather do a few things at length than a lot of brief stuff. In #9, there's a feature on Doctor Death and an interview with its producer, Webster Colcord. Funny Car Summer and Cannibal Holocaust are among the other fine films here. (D-16r)

☐**THE THISTLE** Vol. 4 #1-6 ($1 (?) from MIT W20-450, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139): It's somehow comforting to know that a radical paper exists even at MIT. It's a pretty good one, too, with attention to a wide variety of peace and social justice issues, as well as the peculiar problems of being involved with the military-industrial-academic complex. Divestment and apartheid are big issues here, as are socially-responsible jobs, the unrepresentative nature of the MIT student government, and environmental concerns. (T-16t)

THE THOREAU SOCIETY BULLETIN #191 ($20/yr from 156 Belknap St., Concord, MA 01742): A newsletter devoted to the life and works of Henry David Thoreau. The lead article for this issue demonstrates a passion for detail in truing to unearth the correct pronunciation of his name. Later on there are additions to a bibliography, a sketchmap of part of Concord in his day, and some scholarly work. (S-8r)

THE THOUGHT Vol. 10 #3 ($1 from The Philosophers Guild, PO Box 3092, Orange, CA 92665): A zine of libertarian and anarchist essays with occasional counterpoint from folks in more statist camps. Prison rights have been a big topic here, as is democracy, freedom and slavery. They keep some eye on the big name libertarian publishing world as well. (S-22)

THREADBARE ($1.50 *CASH* from PO Box 20681, Seattle, WA 98102-1681): These one has ben dormant for a while but it awake again, spurred on by the need to take up arms opposing the "War on Drugs". They look at the history of prohibition in this country, the Iron Mountain report, Hitler's stand on drugs, and other evidence that something despicable is going on. Bits of SubGenius rant, strange poetry and underground artwork littler the margins. (S-18)

THUNDERBOW II #8-10 (SASE for sample from Church of Seven Arrows, PO Box 185, Wheatridge, CO 80034-0185): A newsletter for pagans with a bent towards various forms of divination and ecological/environmental/Earth news. They talk about runes and astrology, abstract news items of interest, and discuss the modern use of shamanism. CSA is also active in local teaching and networking activities. (S-6r)

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE #7 ($2 from 1310 Chelton Dr., Kent, OH 44240): A humorous literary magazine, or a literary humor magazine, or something. To tell the truth, the whole thing strikes me as one long shaggy dog joke, stretched well past the point of being funny. Maybe I'm just too unsophisticated to understand Ohio humor. Anyhow, there are lots of words here, though many strike me as superfluous or tedious. (S-40r)

TINA Schism Issue ($2 *CASH/Stamps* from the Church of Tina Chopp, PO Box 1914, Bellingham, WA 98227-1914): This church is developing an increasingly complex theology revolving around bong hits, jocks, drugs, detourned religious tracts, and of course the sacred person of Tina Chopp herself. In this issue you can read much about these various subjects, and probably go out more confused than you came in. (D-36t)

☐**TINY DUMB LOVE** #1 ($3 from Kurt Isensee, Unit #214, 253 College St., Toronto, ONT, M5T 1R5, CANADA): An inscrutable collection of short stories that tend towards the surreal and comic strips composed of high-contrast photos narrated by Freddie Mercury, who seems to be a sort of icon here. Kurt also has a long list of band names, and will transfer the rights of any of them to you for only $10. What a guy. (S-24)

☐**THE TOME** #3 ($5 from David N. Wilson, 454 Munden Ave., Norfolk, VA 23505): This magazine of nasty and fantastic works sports some reasonably big names: fiction from W. Paul Ganley and poetry by Janet Fox grace this issue. But the most powerful story was William Rasmussen's "The Brood", an eerie tale of a strange and not so wonderful pregnancy. Cary Osborne's bloody shocker "Eldon Says" deserves notice as well. (D-84r)

☐**TOO MUCH PRESSURE** #1 (25¢ & a stamp from Eric, 3876 Oakes Dr., Hayward, CA 94542): A minizine of reviews and opinions. Eric writes about movies, music and television, with the centerfold reserved for skateboarding. He seems to like a wide variety of things and is anxious to make friends and communicate. (M-8)

☐**T.O.P.Y. CANADA NEWSLETTER** ($ 1(?) from TOPY Can, PO Box 579, Stn. P, Toronto, ONT, M5S 2T1, CANADA): The newsletter of the Canadian branch of the Temple ov Psychick Youth, a group interested in self-programming and a sort of technical approach to magick. In the two issues at hand they discuss intelligence increase chemicals, brain machines, caballah, and crossing the abyss, among other topics. (S-10t)

☐**TORN SCROTUM** #2 (43 *CASH* from PO Box 293, Welland, ONT, L3B 5P4, CANADA): A zine with definite punk roots, although it doesn't talk much about music. But there are hardcore graphics, rants and raves that clearly come out of that tradition. The preservation of nukes, saying yes to drugs, and the stupidity of religion are among the topics here. A fair chunk of gritty poetry lurks in the margins. (S-28)

TOUCHPOINT Vol. 3 #2 ($4 from 27 Music Square East #169, Nashville, TN 37203): A contact zine for people interested in nonmonogamous and polyfidelitious relationships. (If you want to find out more about this sort of lifestyle, check out **PEPTALK**). Some folks are listed in coded fashion, some give their addresses in print. Has listings for all over the country, though not too many in any one place. (S-8r)

TRANET #63-64 ($30/yr from PO Box 567, Rangeley, ME 04970): A networking newsletter for folk interested in transforming the world. Their main focus is on alternative and appropriate technology, and they have international contacts in this area. But Green politics, peace, tourism, and other soft topics occupy their time too. Each issue has hundreds of contact addresses and short reviews. Recent issues have also included connections to the Action Linkage organization. (S-16t)

TRANSITIONS ABROAD Mar./Apr.-May/June 1990 ($4.50 from 18 Hulst Rd., Box 344, Amherst, MA 01004): A wonderful information source for people who want travel to be more than just a vacation. "the guide to learning, living, and working overseas" has dozens of tips for the experienced and the novice alike (this issue, for example, tells you what a consulate can do for you) and plenty of ideas on what to do where. March focuses on Northern & Central Europe, with skiing in Norway, a visit to Romania, staying on an alpine farm, and much more. May covers the Mediterranean Basin, with a sidetrip to investigate US-Soviet exchanges. (S-64t)

TRASH BARREL (SASE from Donald Franson, 6543 Babcock Ave., North Hollywood, CA 91606): A review of science fiction fanzines (i.e., produced by SF fans, not necessarily about SF). Don covers some titles that I don't see and some that I do, writing for the reasonably knowledgeable fan, and being mostly positive (though real trash does get dumped on). (S-2)

TRIBAL NOTES May 1990 (Donation "plus something short by or about the donator" from Clif Bennett, RR2, Hawkestone, ONT, L0L 1T0, CANADA): A medley of things from Clif's personal life and correspondence. In this issue there are critical looks at Jesus, Marx and Bookchin, thanks to a variety of friends. There are also some short notes on letters not reprinted here and some political and environmental cartoons. (HL-16t)

TRUE TALES #7 (50¢ from Bill Bohrer, No Joke Publications, PO Box 50454, Austin, TX 78763): The subtitle here, "Too Terrible to Tell", has never been truer than in this issue. As a recap, Bill has been slowly remembering being abused as a child, and recently he made a breakthrough—an entire, nasty, experience came back to him. It gets graphic, and sad, and you might want to pass this up if you've not got a strong constitution. (M-20)

☐**TRUTH** (The Usual from Project E*L*F, Box 43 SAO University Center, NMU, Marquette, MI 49855): A mix of Discordian, SubGenius, SF and D&D influences, all filtered through university life. This issue contains some local humor, a guide to strange drinks found at Minicon, and an offer to complete "Kubla Khan", as well as a page nicked from **PRINCIPIA DISCORDIA.** (HL-4t)

☐**TSIMMES** #1-1.5 (The Usual, probably, from Mark L. Blackman, 1745 E. 18th St. #4A, Brooklyn, NY 11229): A small zine from Mark which is unusual in that it is not attached to any apa, as most of his writings have been. He writes about communication, whether this be non-verbal as practiced on the New York subways, traditional in the fanzines, or real-world in censorship stories. (S-1)

TUNNEL TIMES Vol. VI #1 ($1 (?) from PO Box 481, Terre Haute, IN 47808): A revival of a previously-defunct zine, now under new and rather confused management. You can tell they're confused because they reprinted a column from **FACTSHEET FIVE.** There are also some confusingly surreal stories and Impersonal Ads. (T-4)

TURBOT O'BRIAN Vol. 1 #2 (50¢ & a stamp from PO Box 41302, Tucson, AZ 85717-1302): A small zine of collage, cultural driftwood, and other stuff. There are recipes for quick food, pictures of lambs being tossed around, short stories and reviews. Overall it's a very confusing package, but with puzzling and fascinating bits inside. (D-16t)

TURNING THE TIDE Vol. 3 #3 ($5/6 issues from PART, PO Box 10488, Burbank, CA 91510): People Against Racist Terror is a punk/skinhead group which actively fights against Nazi and other racist skins—the community policing itself, so to speak. They collect information and disseminate contacts widely, and conduct an active letter-column on strategy and tactics. (S-8r)

TWO-FISTED FUCK BEAST #9 (SASE from Greg Petix, 1323 N. Norton, TUCSON, AZ 85719): A small collection of rude comics and confusing stories, There's a giant cockroach turning into an alcoholic, Calvin about to get eaten by bears, and a deranged front cover drawing this time. A zine which does not explain itself. (D-4r)

TWO-TON SANTA #41-45 (5¢ & SASE from PO Box 1332, Portsmouth, NH 03801): A small and almost-weekly litmag. They publish a lot of open-ended contents, poems and short prose that seem to have no ending, only incidents. Santa is also a frequent guest here, usually in a variety of bizarre disguises. Curious stuff. (D-4t)

UFO Vol. 5 #3 ($5 from 1800 S. Robertson Blvd. #355, Los Angeles, CA 90035): A slick-cover magazine of UFO research, with more on contactees and perhaps less skepticism than most other journals in the area. #3 concentrates largely on nuclear energy and UFO sightings near nuclear installations. There's also an interview with Jacques Vallee, who went to the USSR to investigate the sightings in Voronezh. (S-48t)

☐**UGLY MOTHERS** #1 25¢ from Fido von Sydo, PO Box 03802-3082, Portsmouth, NH 03802): Pretty much a one-joke literary zine. The contents are written Penthouse-letters style, detailing a single erotic encounter which ends with a Lovecraftiian twist. (D-4)

THE UNDERGROUND FOREST #8 ($5 from 1701 Bluebell Ave., Boulder, CO 80302): A bilingual (English/Spanish) publication with contributions from all over the Western hemisphere. They get into some political commentary, but also a lot of other stuff: non-toxic alternatives to household chemicals, voting by phone, Spanish slang,

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and a poem about the Buddha meeting the Goddess grace this issue. (O-44t)

THE UNICORN Vol. XIII #4-5 ($10/8 issues from The Rowan Tree, PO Box 8814, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A gentle pagan zine with special attention to nature, art, and smaller people. This issue includes notes on gardening in Dallas after years in Minneapolis, the ideas of William Blake, and of course, unicorns. (S-10t)

UNSETTLED #2 ($1 from Donald J. Morrison, CIA Entertainment Productions, PO Box 562, Columbia Sta., OH 44028-0562): A personalzine of reviews and news. Donald talks about an auto show, movies, and theater performances. There's also an opening piece in which he argues at length with himself. (D-8r)

UPDATE March 1990 (Donation from PO Box 84116, San Diego, CA 92138): A small newsletter of freethought. They print news bits from all over, plus short articles. This issue compares the Humanist 12-step programs with the religious ones and talks about the potential split in the Episcopalians. (S-2)

THE UPRIGHT OSTRICH Vol. IX #4-5 ($3 from PO Box 11691-0691, Milwaukee, WI 53211): This is the best source I know for an overview of what's going on in the Constitutionalist movement—a loose collection of people interested in destroying big government, going back to the gold standard, fighting the IRS, perpetual motion and suppressed inventions, and similar topics. #4 includes news on the manipulation of the environmental crisis to keep us all in line. (S-24t)

□**UPTON TEA QUARTERLY** Vol. 1 #2 ($2/yr from Upton Tea Imports, PO Box 159, Upton, MA 01568): This one exists in part to explain the fine points of tea drinking and brewing to benighted people who insist on teabags or (worse) tea mixes, and in part to sell tea which Upton imports from all over. It's written in a direct style, starts with the basics, and seems quite excited by its chosen subject. (S-6t)

USSR NEWS BRIEF #2 1990 ($40/yr from Das Land und Die Welt eV, Schwanthalerstrasse 73, 8000 Munchen, WEST GERMANY): A newsletter which collates all available information on Soviet political prisoners. They track both individual cases and regional occurences, and give names, addresses, and sentences as they are known. (A5-8r)

UTNE READER #39 ($4 from 1624 Harmon Pl., The Fawkes Bldg., Minneapolis, MN 55403): This is probably the largest-circulation publication maintaining some contact with the alternative press—perhaps the only contact most of their readers have. Topics in #39 include a new look at what (and how) to name the baby, the changing character of college campuses, and the American need for a place to call home. (S-144t)

UTOPIA NOW #4 (50p. from Paul, 46 Leatham Park Road, Purston, Pontefract, W. Yorks WF7 5DT, ENGLAND): A very basic history of some of the important avant garde art/politics groups of recent decades. Flipping through you'll find the Situationists, Class War, the Yippies, Metzger, the Church of the SubGenius, Fluxus, and more. No great depth on anything, but a better coverage than the mainstream press there is doing on the poll tax riots. (A4-16)

□**VARIANT** #7 (£2 from 76 Carlisle St., Glasgow G21 1EF, SCOTLAND): A"magazine for new art and ideas" which does a pretty good job of cutting across a lot of the strange groups and movements that are out there today. This issue includes mail artists, an interview with Stewart Home, erotic films by women, Alex Trocchi and Project Sigma, a short story about a video artist immersed in self-reference, and more. Most of the pages are overprinted with artwork in a different color, which makes for hard reading at times but a definite modern appearance. (A4-62t)

VEGETARIAN VOICE Vol. 17 #1 ($12/yr from NAVS, PO Box 72, Dolgeville, NY 13329): The North American Vegetarian Society brings the news about vegetarianism to many people each year, though this magazine, conferences, and other outreach efforts. This issue has plenty on sprouting, health advice, oat bran, recipes, resources, and more. Good reading and good eating. (S-36t)

VEGETARIAN WORLD Vol. 3 #1 ($6/6 issues from #201-102 Wall St., Saskatoon, SASK, S7K 1N4, CANADA): A newsletter composed mainly of reprints and excerpts from other publications. They concentrate on animal rights, recycling, vegetarianism, and ecology, among other socially responsible issues. This time there's advice for dealing with pigeons, notes from Beauty Without Cruelty on ingredients testing, and recycling in Saskatoon. (D-12t)

VENTURIST MONTHLY NEWS Vol. 2 #4-5 ($8/12 issues from The Venturists, PO Box 458, Wrightwood, CA 92397): The Venturists are a group examining the problems of eternal life through cryonics, nanotechnology, or whatever means. #4 is a long and exciting issue, with many of the more active cryonics people debating the concept of identity, and whether some sort of bodily continuity is necessary in addition to information continuity. (S-10t)

□**VETO** #1 ($2 (?) from Veto Productions, 3514 rue Lacombe, Montreal, QUE, H3T 1M1, CANADA): A self-described literary magazine that has a particular interest in work that combines writing with pictorial art (comics) and does so in new ways. Most of the work in this issue actually is about Montreal, with a couple of articles about the underground music scene of the city., The editors report a special interest in Francophone writing from overseas and no interest for any kind of poetry. (D-26)(reviewed by Geof Huth)

VIEWS Vol. 6 #2 ($15/yr from Toronto Photographers Workshop, 80 Spadina Ave. #310, Toronto, ONT, M5V 2J3, CANADA): A serious journal for people who are interested in (and mainly participating in) contemporary Canadian photography. They cover showings and exhibitions with both notices and reviews, provide a calendar and generally seem to act as a linking point for the photographic community. (S-16t)

THE VILLAGE IDIOT "Batteries Not Necessary" ($15/set from Mother of Ashes Press, PO Box 135, Harrison, ID 83833-0135): The concluding volume of the "Business of Poets" series of named editions of this litmag, only available as a complete set. It comes as three booklets in a construction paper slipcase; the first is poetry, the second prose, and the third features exclusively works by Ruth Jesperson. Much hand production here and attention to typographical detail; a few colorful ideas don't quite work but in general this is a special publication livened by a special production. (D-88t)

□**THE VINCENT BROTHERS REVIEW** Spring 1990 ($12/3 issues from 1459 Sanzon Dr., Fairborn, OH 45324): A litmag that is mostly poetry but also finds room for drawings, photos, a story or two and some serious literary criticism (Thomas Whissen's "The Female 'Hero' in Victorian Literature"). Mostly pretty traditional and unflashy stuff, quietly pleasant, with a selection of bright spots including "Sleet" by Laura Albrecht. (D-52t)

□**VITAL INFORMATION** #1 (2 stamps & SASE from PO Box 791337, New Orleans, LA 70179-1377): A new zine devoted to getting out information while it's still possible. There's news on mail order sources of adult video now that the community down there has banned their rental in town, notes on the No More Censorship Defense Fund, and so on. Interracial sex and crackpot theories in general are also touched upon. (D-12r)

VOICES FROM SPIRIT Vol. 3 #9 ($4 from Gerald Polley, PO Box 5155, Ellsworth, ME 04605): A publication that depends in part on dead people for its contents; this time they talk to Margaret Fox, one of the original spiritualist "rappers" in England. Contents here are a mix of New Age and metaphysical pieces, with much wisdom of one sort of another. Their ad section has lots of links to similar folks. (S-8)

WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS Vol. 2 #3-4 ($12/12 issues from PO Box 3511, Madison, WI 53704): Humor with an independent unionist twist, going after big business and big unions alike. They have a deliberately campy tabloid format, with screaming headlines, unbelieveable photos, and cartoons prominently featured. #4 has a couple of sidelights on workplace drug testing and a slam at the sudden corporate interest in Earth Day. (S-4)

WAKELEY'S REALISMS #7 ($1 & SASE from Joseph Wakeley, 9 Oregon Ave., Palmyra, NJ 08065): This is Joseph's zine for essays on whatever he wants to write about. #7 is concerned with forgiveness and the difficulty of actually applying it in the real world, with examples drawn from his own family. (S-4)

WALK AWAY Vol. 2 #1-2 ($10/yr from Simon, Porteous & Associations, PO Box 589, Great Barrington, MA 01230): This newsletter is for people who have walked away from fundamentalism and other total religious institutions. #1 features the story of Austin Miles, the ex-Born Again circus ringmaster who lost his marriage, his savings and his health through his involvement with the Assemblies of God. #2 has (ex-)Father Patrick MaGuire's story of leaving the Catholic Church. (S-4t)

□**WALKING-STICK NOTES #18** (Donation from Cecil Curtis, 4051 E. Olive Rd. #231, Pensacola, FL 32514): Believe it or not, this one really is about walking sticks. It reprints media stories about them, talks about their manufacture, features photos of a few choice collections, and notes appearance of the walking stick in fiction. A curious newsletter. (S-4)

W.A.M.M. Vol. 8 #8-9 ($30/yr from 3255 Hennepin Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408): A newsletter of peace and social justice put out by the group Women Against Military Madness. In addition to the usual calendar and networking sections, #9 has plenty on Central America. The GWEN radio network is also briefly discussed. (S-8t)

THE WASHINGTON REPORT ON MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS Vol. VIII #12-Vol. IX #1 ($15/yr from PO Box 53062, Washington, DC 20009): A roundup and digest of news from the mideast, with special attention to Israel. They are openly quite sympathetic to the Palestinian intifada, and publish a lot of bad news about Israeli policies. (S-58t)

□**THE WASHINGTON SPECTATOR** Vol. 16 #6 ($10/yr from Public Concern Foundation, PO Box 20065, London Terr. Sta., New York, NY 100110: A liberal newsletter with an intellectual tone to it. Most of this issue is devoted to arguing the case for national health insurance as a way to deliver the best care at the least cost. Short items touch on guard donkeys, cocaine chemicals, and other subjects. (S-4t)

THE WEIRD NEWS #5 (Donation or SASE from Donald Busky, 7393 Rugby St., Philadelphia, PA 19138-1236): A collection of bizarre humor, some with a leftist twist, other bits—like the story of Joan Jett covering Back tunes—just, well, weird. This issue takes some swipes at the Bush administration and includes a "Computers are Fascist!" slogan balloon. (S-3)

WE THE PEOPLE #44 ($3 from Michael Wolff, PO Box 704, South Houston, TX 77587-0704): An apa devoted to political discussions, as well as the usual interpersonal banter and ramblings. There's even a bit of fan fiction in which I find myself in an alternate universe prison camp. Most of the folks here are somewhere on the liberal-to-conservative spectrum, with few crazy radicals in attendance, but there's always room for a few more. (S-113)

WHATEVER RAMBLINGS #6 ($1 *CASH* & 2 stamps from Alex Swain, 5 Greenview Ave., Princeton, NJ 08540): A zine of whatever Alex and his friends want to write about. This being the April Fools issue, they're even more bizarre and sophomoric than usual. The biggest feature is an interview with his buddy Marcel, the world's most perfect human. (S-6)

WHAT NOW? #6 ($3 from Dr. Weasle, 23 Nelson #3, Kingston, ONT, K7L 3W6, CANADA): This one is loosely centered on music, but it branches out all over the place. There's an essay on bilingualism in this issue and one on fanzine history, plus a manifesto from the Vertical Party. They talk to The Jig Saw Seen and print poetry from Billy Childish, interview Dead Moon and include a pullout photo poster. Lots going on here, in twelve different directions at once. (S-48r)

□**THE WINDS OF SOCIAL CHANGE #1** (SASE from R.J. Neubauer, PO Box 18307, Rochester, NY 14618): A single sheet of somewhat discouraged ruminations on the state of the nation's youth. It was apparently brought about by running into too many instances of apathy and incompetence as the anniversary of Kent State was passing, I share his concerns about the youth of America, though I'm not sure things are really that much worse than they were 20 years ago. (S-1)

WINGSPAN Winter 1990 (Donation from The Advantage Group, 11 Beach St. #4, Manchester, MA 01944): A "Journal of the Male Spirit" which tries to give a balanced overview of the men's movement and largely succeeds. This issue has the theme "Spirit of the Warrior" and ranges from personal recollections of the horrors of war to notes on how men are trained to enjoy war to ideas on the use of wrestling as a tool for spiritual growth. (T-16t)

THE WONDERFUL WORLD NEWS Vol. 6 #4 ($10/yr from Ringer, 2525 Arapahoe Ave. #E4173, Boulder, CO 80302): A collection of personal writings. This time around Spring is the target, from the mysterious confluence of bugs it brings to the satisfying nothingness of working in the garden. Relaxing and not tough to read. (S-4t)

THE WONDERLAND TIMES Vol. II #4-5 ($6/6 issues from PO Box 20794, Baton Rouge, LA 70894): A zine which is getting to be quite an interesting source for alternative political news. #5, for example, has a full page of reports on the latest from David Duke, as well as an article on FBI harassment of dissidents and notes on how your pot crop should be doing these days. They also feature short fiction and zine reviews. (S-16t)

WORD BURGER #9-10 ($1 *CASH* from 1107 Alabama, San Francisco, CA 94110): A collection of stuff from the punk scene without too much direct reference to music. There's bizarre drawings, hand colored covers, free stickers. There's zine reviews and scene gossip. There's editorial ranting and raving and even the occasional serious article like the one on Nicaragua in #10. A wild if somewhat sloppy mix. (HL-32r)

WORKERS DEMOCRACY #32-33 ($6/4 issues from PO Box 24115, St. Louis, MO 63130): A rank-and-file labor publication that combines a vision of syndicalism with an analysis that tries to grapple with the current situation. #32 tries to set up an interpretive framework to understand the post-WWII shop floor struggles in America, while #33 has some interesting thoughts on worker self-organization and worker education. Somewhat academic in tone, but occasionally quite inspirational. (S-24t)

□**WORLD POLITICS** Vol. 1 #1 ($10/yr from 2425B Channing Way #569, Berkeley, CA 94704): A newsletter for "leftist political junkies". It covers electoral politics from around the world, with Britain, India, Pelau, Italy, the USSR, and Nicaragua being a few of the countries covered in this premiere issue. The centerfold is of political cartoons from all over. (HL-32)

WORKS 5 (£1.25 from 12 Blakestones Rd., Slaithwaite, Huddersfield, HD7 5UQ, UK): A magazine of short SF with a moody atmospheric feel to many of the pieces. These are definitely not "hard" stories; they're more concerned with putting an emotion, perhaps even a horror, into an unusual environment. Of the offerings in this issue, I appreciated "Unforgettable", a bit of psychological horror by Chris James, and Ian Watson's minor but amusing "Oh Happy Franz". (D-52r)

□**THE WORLD OF FANDOM** Vol. 2 #9 ($3 from PO Box 9421, Tampa, FL 33604): A colorful zine centered on popular culture movies, but with excursions into comics, music, and TV. This issue features *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*. Richard Corben, *Alien Nation*, and more. Lots of color photos but the articles tend to be more celebrations than critical reviews. (S-60t)

WORLD PERSPECTIVES Vol. 1 #4-5 ($17.50/yr from People's News Service, PO Box 3074, Madison, WI 53704): A collection of news culled from shortwave broadcasts from all over the world. Peace, disarmament, foreign affairs, and other topics are covered in some depth, with the source of each story carefully indicated. I learn things from every issue. (HL-28t)

WRESTLING OBSERVER NEWSLETTER 3/26/90-5/21/90 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228): A constant weekly source of views and news about pro wrestling. Sometimes they get a bit esoteric, as in the 4/16 issue where the front page is entirely an in-joke about there being two Ric Flairs. 5/7 reports on a business shakeup in the wrestling business in Japan, which is a major market. 5/21 has a look at the prospects for the NWA with their new booker. (S-10r)

WRESTLING PERSPECTIVE Vol. 1 #2-3 ($1 from Paul J. MacArthur & Dave Skolnick, PO Box 401, Camillus, NY 13031-0401): A new wrestling bulletin which seems to be going in for longer analytical articles rather than trying to compete on match coverage. #2 examines the current problems of the NWA and takes a look at the costs of running a PPV event for the cable operator. (S-6t)

WRESTLING STYLE Vol. 1 #42-48 ($3/4 issues from Jim Dough, PO Box 711, Lanham, MD 20703-0711): Nice graphic design here is hampered a bit by an awful printer, but at least Jim and co-editor Joe DiCarlo are paying attention to what they're doing. This is a quick read compared to some other bulletins, concentrating on the week's headlines and a few important opinions rather than in-depth analyses. (S-8)

WRESTLING THEN & NOW #3-4 ($1.25 from Evan Ginzburg, PO Box 471, Oakland Gardens Sta., Flushing, NY 11364): A wrestling bulletin that's trying to promote a sense of history about the sport, by looking back to past eras as well as digging up current news and gossip. Evan invites readers to send in their fondest wrestling memories, and gradually seems to be building this into a unique journal. (S-8)

☐**WRITE NOW!** #2-3 ($12/yr from PO Box 1014, Huntington, IN 46750): A newsletter of encouragement for writers, looseleaf punched to make it a working tool. They do a few updates, run contests with announced themes, and look at the problems both editors and writers have in the small press. #2 looks in part at writing for the greeting-card market. #3 has a selection of markets for writing about animals and pets. (D-20)

XENOFILE Vol. 1 #5 ($1.25 from Con-version, PO Box 1088, Sta. M, Calgary, AB, T2P 2K9, CANADA): A SF fanzine from some Western Canadian fans. This issue includes an appreciation of the Planet of the Apes films (only slightly tongue-in-cheek), fannish news and gossip, a list of forthcoming SF books to watch for and an advice column by Jabba the Hutt, among other goodies. (S-8t)

XEROMAG (Donation from Dave Ricker, 250 Floral Ln., Woodridge, NJ 07075): Dave puts out all manner of booklets under this generic name. Mostly they are composed of artwork and collages, tied together with rubber stampings and the occasional bit of text. Baffling, and sometimes pornographi, work. (D-30)

X MAG #2 ($1 (?) from PO Box 1077, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1077): Formerly **SEIZE THE DUCK**, though it's not clear to me that the new name is an improvement. In any case, this is a media-laden trip through our culture, with a report from the Nintendo championships, a depressingly long list of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle merchandise, a history of the zine (longer than you would think after two issues) and a Matt Groening strip. Form is a bit ahead of content here, but it's still a fun package. (S-16t)

YAWN #11-14 ($10 *CASH/stamps* for 25 issues from PO Box 162, Oakdale, IA 52319): This "Sporadic Critique of Culture" is so far focused on the Art Strike, printing much opinion both pro and con on the matter. If you want to know more about this proposal for overturning the world of art, this is definitely the first place to look. (S-2t)

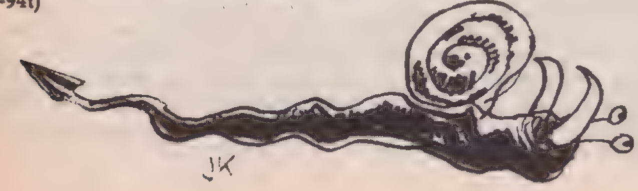
YELLOW SILK #33 ($6 from PO Box 6374, Albany, CA 94706): Well, this was a surprise: in amongst the gentle poetry and classy drawings in this erotic magazine is a story from John Shirley, which was not quite SF, not quite fantasy, definitely not mainstream, but sexy as all get out. "True Hearts" is the theme of this issue, and its filled with people finding people who found them, sometimes with love, sometimes with sex added. Hot and fun, as always. (S-52t)

YUPPIES CAN'T DANCE #4 ($1 from Secundra Beasley, 12517 Lancelot, Cleveland, OH 44108): Secundra claims that the theme of this issue is religion, although some of the connections seem a bit tenuous. But it's got a lot of diverse bits, from the animal rights poem that opens it all to the short essay on a burned out church to the literary moment of silence. Very personal seeming. (D-28)

☐**ZED** #0 ($2 from 7 Clegg St., Worcester, MA 01603-1205): A new magazine of graphics taken from the modern world. They have consumerism run amok, babies waiting to be eaten, the ever-promised but never-arriving gleaming world of the future, and so on. The end result is a snapshot of alienation and rebellion waiting to happen if it can ever break free of social control. (S-16t)

☐**ZEN TREES** #1 ($1 from Fido Von Sydo, PO Box 03802-3082, Portsmouth, NH 03802): A zine of enlightenment and nonsense with a Discordian point of view. There's a zen brick that wanders through, a rant about laziness as the way to nirvana (through being supported by your followers), a Discordian multiple choice test, and more. (S-16t)

Z MISCELLANEOUS Vol. 4 #1 ($12/4 issues from PO Box 20041, Cherokee Station, New York, NY 10028): The litmag with the goodies inside—I got a flamingo cocktail stirrer in this issue—charges right along, with another fat issue of poetry, fiction, essays and artwork. The amount of material here is still daunting, but Z seems to be getting more selective, and the writing remains friendly and solid. This issue adds several new features, including a column of Native American history and a listing of significant historical anniversaries. (S-94t)



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Watching the Rocks Change
Civilian Casualities
Teaching a Tree to Talk
Batteries Not Necessary

This series of titled editions, published idiosyncratically, contains original works (155 poems, 54 pictures, 45 stories) by contemporary authors (a few of whom you may actually have heard, provided you read the same publications i do).

Neither the quantity published nor the authors' renown, however, is much of a basis on which to judge a literary magazine. Whether the individual works, and the journal as a whole, breathes is, to me, what matters most. And the only proof of this is in the reading. I think these are a good read.

Copies of the first four editions were available individually when they were published. With the publication of "Batteries Not Necessary" this has changed; all that is available now are complete sets.

$15.00 from

Judith Shannon Paine, editor
Mother of Ashes Press
P.O. Box 66
Harrison Idaho 83833-0066

Music Zines

ACTION & DEFIANCE Sprint 1990 ($1 from IMWU, PO Box 1162, San Francisco, CA 94101): The newsletter of the International Music Workers Union, a group that does political work concentrating on new music causes and cases. This bulletin reports on various recent legal maneuvers and battles with people they don't approve of, and provides the latest updated list of IMWU affiliates. (D-4r)

ACTIONS OF REBIRTH #2 ($2 *CASH* from Bill, Apostolopoulou 56, Halandri 15231, Athens, GREECE): An Elgnlish-language zine which covers a fairly wide ground. Besides the music, there's animal rights (with instructions on building incendiary devices in this issue), HP Lovecraft stuff, and SF reviews. Most of the music reviews are by mail, and in this issue include Totalitar, Aberration, Hellbastard and Sedition (all European groups). (A4-36r)

THE AFFILIATE Mar.-May 1990 ($25/yr from 4322 Cleroux, Chomeday, Laval, Montreal, H7T 2E3, CANADA): A music networking zine that is also involved with sponsoring various events, from a week-long music festival to a fanzine get together. They give over pages to various contributors to talk about prisons, metaphysics, music and who knows what else. In the May issue Ben Price reviews the Black & Parfrey RANTS anthology. (S-36t)

ALLEY OOP #8 (NZ$13/3 issues from PO Box 5164, Moray Place, Dunedin, NEW ZEALAND): A music zine which mostly focuses on NZ music—though there are surprises, as with the interview with Joey Ramone (conducted in London) and the enclosed minicomic in this issue. They talk a lot about The Clean and the Bats, and chat with Robert Scott, Bailter Space, and others. Reviews and news too. (S-32)

ALTERNATIVE PRESS #27 ($24.95/12 issues from 1451 W. 112th St. #1, Cleveland, OH 44102): This may be the slickest alternative music publication that still maintains the space for a demo column. Most of these pages, though, are for bands that are a bit more successful, with Ministry, Johnny Marr, the Mekons and Lush featured in #27. (O-70t)

AMOK #7 (3.50 DM from Fred Hopf, Schlangentalerweg 20, 6720 Bad Dürkheim, WEST GERMANY): An all German language music zine that proclaims itself "Hard-to-the-core". This time they've got UK Subs, Slapshot, Gang Green, and Les Thugs, as well as music and zine reviews, some horror movie stuff, and a closing comic. (A4-60)

"...AND I FEEL LIKE AN ALARM CLOCK" #2 (2 stamps from Allen Salyer, PO Box 1551, Royal Oak, MI 48068): A fanzine for folks who like the music of Throwing Muses. #2 includes a transcription of an interview they did on MTV and an updated discography for the hardcore collector type, as well as an appreciation of recently-departed bassist Leslie Langston. (D-16r)

ANOTHER PAIR OF SHOES #2 ($1 from 2121 Hennepin Ave. #203, Minneapolis, MN 55405): Half animal rights, half music, says it's a punk rock zine, I guess I'll put it here. The musical half is pretty much filled by an interview with The Scrods, , along with some show photos and a few reviews. Animal rights stuff takes a quick swathe through the basics. (D-36)

ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO FREE #8 ($1.50 from PO Box 1484, Oxford, MS 38655): Yes, even in Mississippi there's a punk alternative, and it looks pretty good. Funnest interview in #8 is with David Hayes of Very Small Records, who sees things from a different perspective than most bands do. They also talk to Dead Silence, Pazuzu and Ultraman, review a bunch of records and a few zines. Plus there's pieces on radicals from the 60's and the modern pro-choice movement, and plenty of photos. (S-40t)

THE ATHENS RECORD Vol. 1 #4 ($1.75 from 330 Clover St., Athens, GA 30606): Music from Athens—Georgia, that is., The big focus here is still on R.E.M., local boys made good, and it's everything from media reprints to reports on their recent doings to a call for rarities for a forthcoming book. The local club scene also gets a workout. (S-12t)

BACKLASH April-May 1990 ($9/yr from 4128 Fremont Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98103): Consistently cool Northwest music coverage. The April issue has a centerfold on the influence of beer on band interviews. On a more normal plane, they review a bunch of tapes, and write about bands like The Fluid, Hell Trout, and Animal Kingdom. (T-12t)

BACTERIA OF DECAY #2 ($1 from Curt, 63 Lennox Ave., Buffalo, NY 14226): Curt and friends decided the Buffalo scene needed help, so they decided to do something about it. The result is this zine, as yet somewhat small but starting to cover the basics. Interviews are the bulk of the contents here, with Go!, Sloppy Seconds, and the Bleeding Hemeroids being a few of the bands they talk to. There's a definite hardcore flavor in both design and coverage here. (S-22)

THE BAG #34 (SASE & a personal note from Buddah Worthmore, 28313 58th, Paw paw, MI 49079): Thought I'd drop this here this time, since Buddah writes more about music than usual. Well, actually, he sort of rambles, skipping from the Supergroup trend to Ted Nugent to stream-of-consciousness ramblings that have little or nothing to do with music. Comes from a record store, and obviously he's been working too hard there. (S-4r)

BANZAI #45-47 ($8/12 issues from PO Box 7522, Overland Park, KS 66207): A heavy metal focused tabloid that concentrates on bands from or playing in the Midwest. Overkill and Michael Monroe are the top stories of #46, which also spots local news and a batch of reviews. #47 has an interview with David Coverdale of Whitesnake. (T-20t)

BAY BLUES Apr. 1990 ($2.50 from PO Box 986, Forestville, CA 95436): A music zine that concentrates exclusively on the blues. (Figured that out without me, did you? Oh well). The main man in this issue is Willie Dixon, who's out teaching kids to play the harmonica as an alternative to stupid violence. Yank Rachell comes in a bit later. A few reviews, some advice, history and who knows what tucked in the corners. (S-40)

☐**THE BEAT** Vol. 8 #6-Vol. 9 #2 ($12/6 issues from Bongo Productions, PO Box 29820, Los Angeles, CA 90029): A music magazine dedicated to "Reggae African Caribbean World Music". I've heard a few of the artists here (Lt. Stitchie, the Killer Bees in #6) but most of them are new to me. The mag is professionally produced, with articles variously concentrating on type of music, region, or single artists. Check out the article on Soukous in this issue—makes me want to hear some. (S-66t)

☐**BIRD CARPET** #1 ($1 from Scott Rughead, 4218 Hearthside, Traverse City, MI 49684): A new music and stuff zine—it comes out of the punk end of things and seems to have wide-ranging interests.

There are interviews with The Accused and Grog, a couple of pages of addresses for animal rights groups, record reviews, bizarre newspaper clippings, and some short fiction in this premiere issue. (S-40)

□**BLAHBLAHBLAH** Vol. 2 #5-6 (The Usual from KRUX 91.5 FM, Box 30001-NMSU, Las Cruces, NM 88003-0001): A music zine put out by a college radio station but which goes well beyond the playlist format. fIREHOSE and M.C. 900-Ft. Jesus are the two biggest names in #6. There's a page on Earth Day, a petition to get Depeche Mode to play in town, and various NM and Texas band news. (T-8t)

□**BLITZ** #284-288 (Miguel Santos, Rua Sacadura Cabral, 26, Dafundo - 1495 Lisboa, PORTUGAL): A weekly Portuguese-language music paper. They cover music from all over and all levels, with the Cramps and Iron Maiden in #284 as well as plenty of European bands and a centerfold poster of Peste & Sida. Nick Cave makes the cover of #287. (T-28t)

BLONDIE FANZINE Mar.-Apr. 1990 ($1 from Robert S. Robbins, 1997 Misner Rd., Williamsport, PA 17701): Robert has fixed the printing problems that plagued earlier issues and now this is a much more striking publication, though I'm still not all that thrilled with the full-page digitized photos that infest the March issue. April is more to my tastes, with detailed reviews of each of the four Blondie albums plus Debbie Harry's own "Def, Dumb & Blonde". (S-6t)

□**THE BLUESLETTER** #8 ($5/yr from The St. Louis Blues Society, PO Box 21652, St. Louis, MO 63109): A newsletter from a group of people working to support the blues, past and present. There's a gallery of photos of current bluesmen and a long article about Silvercloud in this issue. Also the news of the 1990 St. Louis Blues Festival is starting to come in. (S-16t)

BOSTON ROCK #101-102 ($15/10 issues from T. Lozaw, PO Box 371 New Town Branch, Boston, MA 02258): #101 is the gala tenth anniversary issue of this music tabloid, and it focuses in on some of the bands that made the Boston scene great this past decade: Gang Green and Mission of Burma, among others. There are several scene retrospectives and "best of" lists as well, and a neat full-color Mission of Burma cover. (T-32t)

B-SIDE Apr./May 1990 ($13/6 issues from PO Box 1860, Burlington, NJ 08016): Music coverage that consists of feature stories about a dozen or so cool college bands each issue, making it a quick source to catch up on what's hip. For this issue, the selection includes Executive Slacks, Poi Dog Pondering,s, Shelleyan Orphan, Camper Van Beethoven, and Alien Sex Fiend. Columns in the back cover everything from hardcore to rap in brief takes. (S-50t)

□**BSU** #7 ($2 (?) from Ben Barnett, PO Box 2308, Plainville, MA 02762): The title stands for "Bull Shit Unlimited" but this zine is much more solid than that might lead you to believe. They feature scene reports that try to be comprehensive, a non-profit record and tape distribution service, and of course reviews and interviews. The latter include Verbal Assault and Stikky in this issue. (S-40t)

BULLPRESS #2 ($2 from Darryl Unger, 249-2 Edwards St., Binghamton, NY 13901): A music zine that worries more about getting opinions out than making itself look nice. There's a bunch of mail interviews here, with folks like Sockeye, Cannibals Gone Trendy, and Generica. Reviews of live and recorded music, some reprinted comics, and some editorial nattering also happen here. (S-34)

BUTT RAG #6 ($3.50 from Peter Margasak, PO Box 14724, Chicago, IL 60614): OK, so we've got interviews with Universal Congress Of, Nicholas Collins and his hyped-up trombone-thing, Death of Samantha, Blind Idiot God and more. But the real thing here is the record reviews, mainly by Pete, of a whole slew of important and not so important music, much of which gets slagged for a variety of sins from pretentiousness to boringness. It works, because the reviewers know what they're talking about. (S-88t)

BUZZ #53 ($4/4 issues from PO Box 3111, Albany, NY 12203): The local free music paper is still going strong, covering everything from the Grateful Dead's visit to town on down to demos and 7" records. #53 has an interview with Noel Redding (he played with Hendrix, if you're trying to place the name) and one with Flat Duo Jets. (S-30)

□**BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY** #1 ($1.50 from Michael McLellan, 550 Pinewood Dr., Pendleton, SC 29670): This is a punk zine, and one of the cores is the interview with Antischism and the music and zine reviews. But there is a lot of socially conscious stuff as well, with editorials on abortion, anarchy, freedom of expression and more. They reprint news of interest to punks and radicals, do a few poetry pages (handwritten for impact) and generally seem to have a finger in all facets of punk culture. (D-40)

CHAIRS MISSING #2 (50¢ from PO Box 375, Fairfield, CT 06430-0375): An unpretentious and personal zine of music reviews—Scott got tired of doing a big fat zine and now just spouts off himself with no interruptions. Plenty of straightforward "The Emperor Can't Play Worth a Damn" opinion (and occasional praise where it's due) in the reviews here. (S-6)

CLOT Vol. 1 #3 ($6/3 months from PO Box 33330, Northglenn, CO 80233): A mostly-metal fanzine that wanders off to some corners not usually found in such arenas: there are articles on tattoos, trademarks and women in the music industry in #3. They also talk with Voivod, Animosity, Gothic Slam and plenty more bands. (T-24t)

□**COMBO!** #4 (120f/4 issues from Black Mony c/o David Dufresne, BP 576, 75027 Paris Cedex 1, FRANCE): Overseas subscriptions are, no doubt, a little more expensive. COMBO! centers most of its attention on popular music, but also has a strong interest in science fiction. This issue opens with a long article on the new wave (for those who remember) musician Jonathan Richman, and it exhibits both deep and broad knowledge of American popular music. Also contains sizable articles on Richard Brautigan and the Kinks. An informative, intelligent and lively magazine—if you read French. (D-114t)(Guest review by Geof Huth)

COMPLEX #3 (50¢ (?) from Samuel Nathan Shiffman, 131 N. 6th Ave., Highland Park, NJ 08904): Curmudgeonly punk rock opinion and reviews. Sam rags on a lot of current popular bands, talks to Bullet La Volta, and complains about his own life. Fun to read, but only in small doses. (S-10r)

CONTRAST #7 ($3 from PO Box 10832, Beverly Hills, CA 90213): Wall-to-wall interviews with some of the best new (or old, for that matter) folks on the music scene. I enjoyed the chat with Sun Ra about Saturn, politics, and interplanetary travel in this issue. Others here include XTC, The Men They Couldn't Hang, the Church, Mudhoney, Curtis Mayfield, Van Dyke Parks and Adrian Belew.

TOASTER-MAN COMICS #3 (75¢ from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre de Coubertin #5, Montreal, QC, H1V 1A4, CANADA): A scrawled and confusing comic involving a toaster superhero and his enemy, the grease-bespattered Doctor Butter. To say that the plot is non-linear is an understatement. (M-8)

TWIST BAZOON #2 (50¢ & a stamp from Chris Cilla, PO Box 41302, Tucson, AZ 85717-1302): A medley of bizarre minicomics. The longest feature looks at the life of a pizza delivery boy, but my favorite was "Enoch's Last Day", a surreal look at a world gone mad. (M-28)

TWISTED IMAGE NEWSLETTER #17-18 ($1 from Ace Backwords, 1630 University Ave. #26, Berkeley, CA 94703): Comics and columns from the pen of Ace Backwords, annoying underground cartoonist extraordinaire. Besides his comics, Ace presents letters to the editor, music reviews, and most anything else he's written lately. (S-8)

☐**ULTRA-KLUTZ** #28 ($2 from Onward Comics, PO Box 3684, Chico, CA 95927): A comic book featuring a bunch of bizarre giant aliens who do the usual giant alien stuff of beating up cities—but they also have dinner together and collect weird cultural junk. UK is something of a small-press phenomenon, and a lot of fun, though confusing for the first few pages if you're new to the book. (S-32)

☐**UNDERGROUND CLASSICS** #1 ($3.25 & Age Statement from Rip Off Press, PO Box 4686, Auburn, CA 95604): Rip Off has decided it's time for a new generation of folks to learn about the classic underground comics, and they've kicked the series off with the seminal Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers strips. Fat Freddy's Cat puts in an appearance here, as do plenty of drugs, promiscuous sex, and notes on the secret police. As fun as ever. (S-24)

UNSCENE COMIX #16-18 (45¢ postage from Wall-ter, PO Box 501, Lexington, KY 40033): A collection of punkoid strips which have plots surface from time to time but ruthlessly put them down. There's bloody surgery by loons, punk rockers, conspiracies, marginal doodles, and other strange stuff lurking here. #17 has a skateboarding mouse and a hilarious breakfast-table one-liner. (D-24)

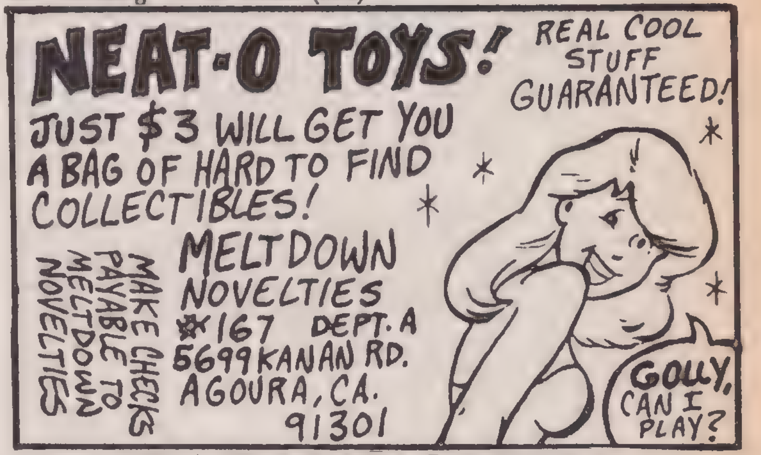
UPDATE #113 ($5/12 issues from William Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): The reviewzine that would not die, although it must be on advanced life support by now. Dockery and his friends ramble about other friends, with only Lynn Hansen actually making the attempt to review outside comics (and doing a reasonably good job of it). For the completist only. (M-8r)

WAVEMAKERS #7 ($3 from Mark Innes, 92 Queensdale Ave. East, Hamilton, ONT, L9A 1K3, CANADA): A fine collection of mostly-stfnal comics in a wraparound color cover. Highlights include Earl Geier's wordless "Saviour" and the action-adventure "The C.A.S.T." by Rob Gravelle. Lots of serials here, but enough self-contained strips to make even one issue enjoyable. (D-60)

THE WONDER OF A JOYLESS LIFE (Free for a piece of art with the words "Hi Jason!" on it, from Jason Sadofsky, 30 Cross Ridge Rd., Chappaqua, NY 10514): In this comic, Jason explores the problem of the budding artist who has the technical skills to draw all sorts of things and no particular point to get across—namely, himself. He comes to a solution in the end, but it is perhaps not what you would expect. Self-referential comics. (D-8)

XL5 Vol. 1 #2 (75¢ *cash/stamps* [US stamps OK] from Eric Theriault, 1289 Barre #1, Montreal, QC, H3C 1N1, CANADA): Two highly stylized comics in a terse style that leaves the reader to extrapolate many details. The first features the XL5 spaceship on a planet of Elvis zombies. The second has a sniper who is not fond of current fads. Nice style. (D-8)

YOUR DIRTY LIL' COMIC #3 (50¢ & a stamp & Age Statement from Nice Day Comix, 911 Park St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-6241): This time around artists Hugh & Zetz have gone for another TV parody in "The Just Say U.N.C.L.E. Affair", featuring a bunch of secret agents in various stages of undress and sloshy sex. Amusing if a bit crude. (M-8)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Sample issue: $1.00 Age statement required (Sorry, kiddies!)

enjoy the stuff they listen to. (S-130t)

FOSTER CHILD March-May 1990 (50¢ from Tony Miller, 7635 Marcy Ct., Glen Burnie, MD 21061): A no-frills, all-review issue of **FOSTER CHILD**. After a few zines, this is strictly reviews of new music, with contributions from a few other writers including yours truly (reprinted reviews from FF, actually). Tony is looking for more material to review in future issues as well. (S-4r)

GAINSAY #3 ($2 from Joel Wick, 115 Candlewyck #704, Kalamazoo, MI 49001): A nice friendly and positive punk zine. There's an interview with Jawbox in this issue and a separate chat with their bassist Kim who also works in the mail order department at Dischord. Laughing Hyenas and The Unknown are also on the menu, and there's a strongly anti-racist editorial. (S-36)

GAJOOB #5 ($3 from Bryan Baker, PO Box 3201, Salt Lake City, UT 84110): An important magazine of Cassette Culture, for people who will brave homemade tapes to find the many non-commercial gems out there. Bryan reviews all the tapes (and only tapes) he gets, and publishes lots of features and letters as well. This issue has a talk with Robin James and one with Joe Newman, a profile of Joanne Rand, a reader's choice pages, and lots more. Essential for anyone interested in venturing off beaten musical paths. (S-64t)

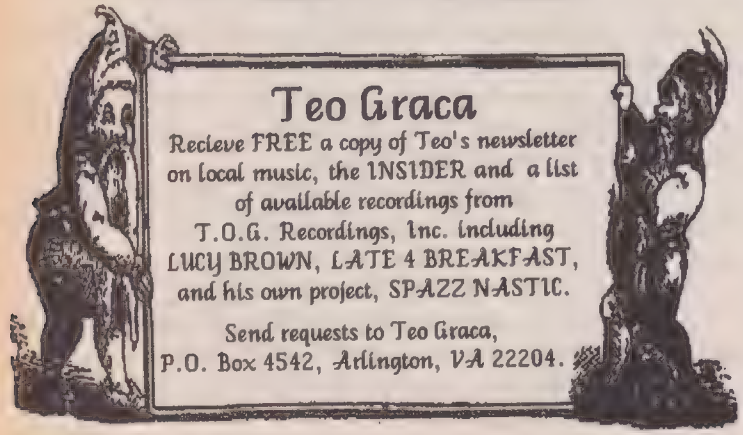
□**GOOD & PLENTY #5** ($1.25 from Gabe Rodriguez, 2116 Salem Blvd., Zion, IL 60099): An indie music zine which avoids doing reviews, since Gabe doesn't believe it's possible to be fair. On the other hand, there are a ton of photos here, including an all-photo 19-page center section, which is something you won't find everywhere. There's also band interviews, including Billingsgate and Carry Nation. (S-44)

GOOD DAY SUNSHINE #54 ($10/6 issues from 397 Edgewood Ave., New Haven, CT 06511-4013): Yes, Beatles fans are still alive and well, and you'll find a lot of them right here. Much of this issue is devoted to the recent McCartney tour, including reviews both good and bad. There's stuff on which unreleased tracks people would like to see come out, a longish letters column, and notes on Beatles events for last year. (S-50)

□**GOTHIC #1** ($1 from Monica, 13 Chippewa Trail, Browns Mills, NJ 08015): A new zine with a mix of music and other content. Monica interviews The Cause and reviews a few albums and live shows including a Henry Rollins outing. There's also some gothic horror and lots of environmental and animal rights briefs. Looks pretty hardcore as far as the latter goes. (D-36)

GUNFIRE #7 ($1 from Gene Temesy, 439 Rivercrest Dr., Piscataway, NJ 08854): A fan magazine for the band The Gun Club. It runs from the roots of the band forward to a current interview with Kid Congo Powers. Plenty of photos plus the '89 tour rundown serve to dress this issue up. (S-6r)

H23 #2 ($12/3 issues from Ron Rice, NOISINGplace, PO Box 592, Pullman, WA 99163-0592): This zine of experimental music includes a hard-vinyl EP with four of the artists interviewed (Sleep Chamber, PGR, Floating Concrete Octopus, Randy Grief). Besides the interviews, there's an exchange of letters with Carl Howard, a look back at the Inner-X cassette label, and of course reviews. The zine's typography gets very experimental itself in places, and Ron is definitely interested in expanding the scope to include more visual and written experimental work in the future. (S-48t)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Send requests to Teo Graca, P.O. Box 4542, Arlington, VA 22204.

□**HEADTRIP** ($1.25 from Mark Laliberte, 2791 Jos St Louis, Windsor, ONT, N8T 2M7, CANADA): Besides music coverage this zine also features some underground comics, including truly offensive work from Michael Diana. They interview Stars from Marts and a;GRUMH..., two bands I've never heard of but who sound mildly interesting. There are also live and record reviews. (S-16t)

HEARTSONG REVIEW #8 ($1 for sample from PO Box 1084, Cottage Grove, OR 97424): Every once in a while I review some New Age music. These people devote their entire zine to that genre, and as specialists, do a darned good job. Besides hundreds of reviews, this issue has a special section focusing on movement, dance and their healing powers. They also offer compilations of past reviews, split by type of music, for those looking to compare notes on this fast-growing field. (S-56t)

HIPPYCORE #7 ($1.50 from J. Kahn, PO Box 195, Mesa, AZ 85211): A mammoth zine of music and social action and anarchy and other good stuff. They talk to Screeching Weasel and Christ on a Crutch and Conspiracy of Equals. Then there's articles on East Timor and the anarchist riot in Berkeley last year. Add in columns, poetry, comics, art, you name it...and you realize this is a well-packed zine. Lots of reviews too. (S-74r)

□**HOLLAND ROCKS UPDATE #2** (On Request, apparently, from Modern World Music, 143 Avenue B #5A, New York, NY 10009): A promotional magazine devoted to getting new Dutch music better known in the US. They have a bunch of stuff on the size and makeup of Holland's music format,. and then move into brief profiles of 41 bands. A well-done marketing tool. (A4-24t)

HOT SPIT #1 ($2 from PO Box 2106, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741): A new music zine that hops all over the place in its interviews, from college radio darlings Thin White Rope to the psychedelia of Rudi Protrudi, from Penelope Houston to the weird post-jazz of Anthony Braxton. They also talk to Mudhoney, have a page on New York Scum Rock, and review a batch of records. A solid start. (S-40t)

HOT STOPS #15 ($2 from Michael Dodson, PO Box 1333, Lombard, IL 60148): A music zine that covers everything from Mudhoney to Muddy Waters—whatever the readers and editor want to write about. It started as a "fan" zine, but has developed more depth and moved towards more reviewing lately. There's also a growing bulletin board section here. (O-8r)

INCITE! #17 (2 stamps from Tim Alborn, PO Box 649, Cambridge, MA 02238): A music zine which is basically Tim's own reactions to the indie music world, but as he's a sensible guy and writes well that's enough. #17 is all scattered reviews, groups geographically from Boston out to Washington state. Don't expect a quick reply, as Tim will be out of the country until September, but do send a couple of stamps some time between now and then. (D-16t)

□**INDUSTRY ZINE Vol. 1 #3** ($1 from 705 E. 3rd Pl. #B, Mesa, AZ 85203): A zine of "industrial music and culture", though the music is more prominent in this issue. The main feature is an interview with The Young Gods, a European group on tour in this country, They also review a batch of records and print a few editorial pieces of social commentary. (D-12r)

THE INSIDER #10 (Donation from PO Box 4542, Arlington, VA 22205): A small zine of local music happenings and the occasional review. The group Chainsaw Jazz is featured in #10, along with a page of fanzine reviews and some other tidbits. (M-8t)

INWARD MONITOR #3 ($2 from Jon Reed, 901 Mooresfield Rd., Saunderstown, RI 02874): A relatively new music zine that seems to be trying to emphasize the more positive pars of the punk scene (which, just to confuse you, does not necessarily include "positive punk"). Interviews include Fugazi and Mike Bullshit, who talks extensively about ABC No Rio. Holy Rollers, Cringer, and Evacuate Records also get press here. Good use of photos and clean layout are a bonus. (S-36t)

KREATURE COMFORTS Vol. III #2 ($1 & a stamp from 1916 Madison Ave., Memphis, TN 38104): Pop culture and brain machines all under one set of covers—the editors run a float tank place in Memphis. Inside, there's discussion of the local music scene, a few movie reviews, and a bunch of trading cards. I got ones from *Saturday Night Fever* and the Vietnam war, among others. (S-10t)

LEPER COTILLION #2 ($1.50 from PO Box 170706, San Francisco, CA 94117): A music zine with a unique clean &

experimental layout that gets confusing at times but brings back echoes of a sleek white tech-future. The music they review is all sort of strange too: Arcane Device, Ultra 14, Death of Samantha, Nomeansno, Lunachicks and Feed Time check in here. (S-28t)

LIFE IN THE UNDERGROUND #5 ($1 (?) from Scott Russell, Asbury CPO, Wilmore, KY 40390): A music zine with a strong Christian influence. In fact, a lot of people would consider this somewhere beyond intolerant and into bigoted, based on the article accusing Planned Parenthood of being demonic and fascist. If you can stomach that and the evangelism, though, there are some good reviews of CCM. (L-8r)

THE LIL' RHINO GAZETTE #15 ($2.50 from KKR North, PO Box 14139, Arlington, TX 76094-1139): A pretty fat music and stuff zine. The main interviews in this issue are with Pylon and with Flaming Carrot creator Bob Burden. There are lots of record reviews from lots of reviewers, lists from the 80's and predictions for the 90's, record-groove messages, and even an acrostic for the underground. Jammed with news and reviews. (HL-52r)

□**LIVING FATALITY** #3 ($1 from Chris Henderson, 401 W. Marshall St., Elkhorn, WI 53121): A small zine which is looking for new bands to interview. Meanwhile, they maintain a close contact with their readers, asking for lists of songs they like, for example. There's an interview with the music critic for a Milwaukee paper and some random thoughts from the editor in this issue. (S-12)

LOOK WITHIN #2 ($1 & 2 stamps from Dan Davis, 4075 Minuet Cir., West Valley City, UT 84119): "A Hard Core Zine of Higher Consciousness", this one has a fairly heavy Krishna influence in it. Mostly it's into networking, with small ads and addresses for a bunch of other zines. They also talk briefly with Process of Elimination and Slaughterchrist. (D-28)

MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL #83-84 ($2.50 from PO Box 288, Berkeley, CA 94701): A massive chunk of punk music and culture. They've got homelessness in America, lots of letters, scene reports, reviews up the wazoo, Radiation Sickness, No Use For A Name, and plenty of outrageous columnists. Everybody and his brother advertises here too, making this the punk watering hole *par excellance*. (S-128t)

MERLIN'S MUSIC BOX Mar. 1990 ($3 from Yiannis Kastanaras, Argiiroupoleos 27, Athens 114 71, GREECE): A psychedelic and punk music fanzine. Apart from group names and the occasional lyric, though, it's all in Greek. Looks slick, with colorful covers and articles in this issue on Thee Fourgiven, Spacement 3, Bevis Frond, Dirty Saints and many more. (A4-36t)

MINDLESS CONFUSION #3 (75¢ from 791 Cornwall Rd., State College, PA 16803): A zine that seems a bit scattered but manages to pack a good deal in. Interviews in #3 include Necracedia, The Radicts, and 200 Stitches. There are live show, record and zine reviews, and a couple articles on social issues. The latter include a plea for pot legalization and a look at the various reasons people give for being vegetarian. (S-24t)

□**MINDSET** #1 (50¢ from Charles Maggio, 305 Haywood Dr., Paramus, NJ 07652): This zine is being produced in a decentralized fashion—the editors invited a whole bunch of people to contribute a page each, and many did. Some review records, others look at the state of the scene, others print clippings they picked up in odd corners of the world. Looking for bands and others to do even more writing for future issues. (S-18r)

MLC Vol. 4 #1 ($4.50 from Linda & Peter Weinsettl, PO Box 1213 Stn. B, Downsview, ONT, M3H 5V6, CANADA): A fanzine for obsessive collectors and fans of Madonna. They track down all the various import versions of songs, watch for Madonna in the media, print photos of the material girl, her secretary and her bodyguard, and so on. The unreleased "Vogue" single is some of the biggest news in this issue. (S-20t)

MOE WORKS AT WAL-MART Vol. 2 #2 ($1 (?) from 1213 1/2 E. New Orleans, Tampa, FL 33603): A music zine that sort of centers on the college radio stuff but pays attention to some bands that are well beyond this center—such as Shonen Knife, who feature in one of the lead stories. Other bands with extra coverage are Naimoi's Hari and Multi-Color House, and there's also a decent-sized review section. (S-12r)

MOUTH #5-6 ($1 (?) from PO Box 2069, Decatur, GA 30030): A snazzy desktop published music tyhang for the Atlanta area. #5 has got Fetchin' Bones, Soundgarden, Animal Logic and Let's Active on the menu. Nifty layouts, photos, bits of interviews and reviews all intermix here. #6 focuses on Fugazi, Gwar, and the SXSW indie music confab. (T-8t)

MURTAUGH #4 (2 stamps from Spike Vrusho, 1600 Groton Dr., Hudson, OH 44236): A music (mostly) zine from the rust belt with a strong leaning towards baseball (free card and gum with this issue) and a no-nonsense way of talking or at least writing. There are reviews crammed in here somewhere, commentary on the zine scene, a Crawlpappy interview, Ford vs. Chevy and who knows what else. Punk for a beer-drinking crowd. (HL-12t)

□**MY GHETTO** #1 ($2.50 from Al Slammer, 188 Foster Hill Road, Bedford, Beds, MK41 7TB, UK): A new punk zine that has a fairly standard scattered look but a cast of characters completely different from most of the stuff I see. Interviews include Cowboy Killers, Genital Deformities, and the editor of 666 1/2 zine. There are a mess of reviews, some art and poetry, and short fiction. Poor printing makes it just a bit tough to read in places. (A5-40r)

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH #3 (2 IRCs from 1 South View, Main Street, Mexborough, South Yorkshire, S64 9NE, UK): A zine of music contacts worldwide, to help local artists get their stuff out. They list radio stations and zines(mainly from North America) and talk about what's going on on the local scene. This issue also has a retrospective look at 60's garage punk. (A5-12r)

□**THE NEW MUSIC SCENE** Vol. 3 #4 ($5/8 issues from Gloria Sheehan, PO Box 10775, Stamford, CT 06904): A fairly light music newsletter that chooses to concentrate on worthwhile music instead of trashing stuff they don't like (well, Axl Rose does get slammed a time or two). They Might Be Giants and The Mighty Lemon Drops get plugged this issue, and there's an article trying to pinpoint some influential new artists for the nineties. (S-16t)

THE NEWSLETTER Vol. 3 #6-8 (45¢ postage from PO Box 93237, Milwaukee, WI 53203): A new music publication for the Wisconsin area,. drawing on the broad college radio spectrum for its coverage. #6 has the Residents, Chesterfield Kings, and The Smithereens. #7 reports from SXSW and features Spanic Boys and Arms & Legs & Feet on the cover. There's major coverage of Rebel Waltz in #8. (S-20t)

NO EXTERNAL COMPULSION #3 (Free, "contributions and/or trade encouraged!" from Criterion, 537 W. Main #2, Madison, WI 53703): Punk music and culture, with perhaps a bit more emphasis on the latter. This issue has the art of John Yates and a couple of pages on stopping sexism. There's also a Fugazi interview and various marginalia. (D-12r)

THE NOISE #93-95 ($10/12 issues from Timothy Maxwell, 74 Jamaica St., JP, Boston, MA 02130): All the gossip and news from the Boston music scene that you need to know. #93 includes coverage of the Titanics and High Risk Group, plus an interview with scenester and radio dude Bradley J and of course a load of reviews. #94 predicts the winners for the annual WBCN Rumble contest. More tattoos plus O Positive in #95. (S-24)

NOISE FEST #1 ($1 from Chris Bnanks, 15 Ashbourne Gardens, Bradford, BD2 4AE, W. Yorks, UK): A zine which sticks pretty close to the punk/hardcore axis, both in content and in looks. The bulk of it is interviews, with bands I've never run across on this side of the Atlantic: Saw Throat, Debauchery, Don't Kill Sheep and Godflesh are a few of them. There's also stuff on animal rights, non-profit distribution and other social topics. (A5-32r)

NOISY CONCEPT #2 (50¢ from Mike Thain, 621 Bassett Rd., Bay Village, OH 44140): This time around almost the whole zine is devoted to straightedge (my own zine column being one notable exception), with interviews with SE bands and thoughts from a lot of folks on what the philosophy means. Gorilla Biscuits, Chain of Strength, Integrity and others are here, as well as folks from the punk in the pit to Al Quint, **SUBURBAN VOICE** editor. A good collection. (D-20r)

THE NOTE Vol. 5 #4-5 ($12.95/12 issues from 735 1/2 New Hampshire, Lawrence, KS 66044): A music tabloid with good coverage of both the local Kansas scenes and, increasingly, national issues. #4 sports a fine roundup of the current news on record labeling, explaining why even voluntary labeling is a bad idea and listing the states that are trying to make it mandatory. BB King makes the cover of #5. (T-24t)

Stars On One

I suppose that it will come as no great surprise to anyone who has been following along in these communiques with even a modicum of attention—or, for that matter, to anyone who knows what "modicum" means—that I am—and, believe me, I say this with no small embarrassment and all due trepidation—a fugitive from *Twin Peaks*.

I mean, really. I was, after all, that one tiny, tremulous, neurotic voice in the crowd who thought *Terms of Endearment* was a soppy, four-handkerchiefer that cornered the East Coast market in suburban angst, who found *Platoon* murky, confusing, and just plain old not very well made, and who considered *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* the most blatant display of greed and exploitation since our mutual alma mater asked Barbra Streisand to donate her Oscar for *Funny Girl* so that they could put it in the trophy case in the principal's office, so it probably doesn't take any tremendous stretching of the imagination to conclude that I might possibly be a touch this side of underwhelmed by this latest aspect of the The Thing That Everybody Loved. (For your files, I'm not all that wild about *The Simpsons* either, but that's another story and one I don't expect to tell unless my tolerance for receiving that sort of letter that routinely begins "Dear Dickweed" increases dramatically.)

And it isn't that I didn't *try*, you understand, because I most certainly *did*—I tried like the gallant little trouper you've come to know and love so very much. Like just about every other civilised person in this great nation of ours, I waited with baited breath for the two hour premier of *Twin Peaks*, enticed by the siren songs of the Grown-Up critics who get to see these things weeks ahead of us mere mortals and who promised a programme of such unparalleled literacy, creativity and general all-around hipness that the thought of it sent my poor heart into a flutter, even though my previous encounters with the show's Guiding Genius, Mr. David Lynch, had ranged from the reasonably interesting (*The Elephant Man*) to the downright nauseating (*Eraserhead*). On the appointed evening, I sat all the way through the show without even glancing at a book or a magazine (and I had the new issue of **AMERICAN BOOKMAN** right there, too) or leaving my seat, except for what you might call necessary breaks during the commercials, and once, for a moment, when the cat got into the Frusen Gladje, and I must say that I was mildly impressed. "Nice use of atmosphere", I said to myself sanguinely. "Fair build-up of suspense, good comic touches, underplayed and appropriate inclusion of in jokes, wonderful camera work and cinematography. Well, altogether I'd say 8 out of 10, and who knows what they'll manage with a couple of weeks to develop?" I concluded, pleased that not once in the entire two hours had Lynch felt compelled to include a bleeding chicken, and attributing a very slight, not-exactly-right sensation in the pit of my stomach to the sight of beige fur in the Brandied Peach.

To cut an extremely long story short form here on—though I'm sure you could just as esily remain riveted during an entire 15 page recital, couldn't you?—I watched *Twin Peaks* the second week, and was still mildly impressed, though perhaps to a somewhat lesser degree—I confess that I fidgeted just the teensiest bit. I watched it the third week, and thought it was pretty good, though I did notice myself playing Remote Control Roulette during some of the transition bits. By the fourth week I was actively checking out Tom Robbins' latest novel with one eye while monitoring the continuing saga of the death of Laura Plamer with the other, and by the fifth, when I realized that this was the very night they were planning to air this season's cliffhanger episode of *Cheers*, I gave up the pretense altogether and looked in on Sam and Rebecca, and the thing is that at no point in this entire process did I find myself really giving much of a damn.

Which is, of course, the entire crux of the matter: I stopped watching *Twin Peaks* simply and solely beacause, clever video effects, interesting and disturbing techniques, and snappy patter notwithstanding, I never really could get myself to care about anything that was going on, or anybody that it was going on to (now, you see what happens when you watch too much television. Your grammar just goes all to pieces)... And the reason, I think, that I did not care about any of this is that there was abolutely no attempt made on the part of anyone connected with this venture to *get* me to care about it. I'm perfectly willing to meet Mr. Lynch partway (up to the bloody chicken, anyhow), but not if he's going to sit in his air-conditioned bungalow and sneer as I'm doing it.

Look, here's the way I see it: There are those of us who enjoy intellectual puzzles and those of us who don't. There are those of us who derive a very real pleasure and satisfaction from sucessfully completing the Sunday **TIMES** crossword puzzle, or coming up with an enormously scintillating solution to a **NEW YORK MAGAZINE** competition, or matching up all the squares on a Rubik's cube (or whatever variation thereof is popular this year). Many, many people just adore this kind of theing—they have their own magazines, their own clubs, and there's probably a Mensa SIG that exists just for them. On the other hand—and if you're one of the first sort of people you have no doublt worked out by now innto which section of humanity I'm about to fling myself—there are those of us who have never quite been able to figure out the attraction of this variety of time-passing, those of us to whom the sight of a completed Sunday crossword means only that we have just used up four hours of our lives with nothing to show for it except a box full of words, those of us who even—or especially—the promise of a year's subscription to a particularly trendy magazine could not induce to create a parody of a Gershwin song using the leader of a Communist country as its first and last words, and those of us who can not only gaze upon a Rubik's cube unmoved, but unmoving as well. It's one of the great schisms of the human race and, while not insurmountable—I understand that there have been several happy marriages between Those Who Do Puzzles and Those Who Do Not—it certainly cannot be completely discounted, either.

Okay, hold that thought while we get back to *Twin Peaks* for a moment. Now, *Twin Peaks* really does contain all the positive attributes I mentiond—good atmospherics, comic touches, in jokes, terific understanding and use of the medium, and besides that, as the Grown-Up Critics announced, a sense of overall hipness that you don't always get on a television programme—I'm not going to deny that. As far as that goes, *Twin Peaks* is a beautifully crafted show, which pretty well sums up what's wrong with it, to my way of thinking. Craft is what you need when you build a bookcase; to put together a satisfying television programme, you need a little bit more.

It was Todd Kristel of **COOKED** who pointed out to me that, in the world of *Twin Peaks*, nothing seems to matter terribly much (for the record, by the way, he likes the show). Murder, incest, wife-beating, suicide, drug addiction—everything is treated with the same amount of importance, or lack thereof; things are not so much events in and of themselves a backdrops to some colossal joke, a joke, naturally enough, that we are expected not only to get, but to share. I would agree with that, and take it a step farther, to include the programme's characters.

The characters of *Twin Peaks*—not incidentally like the characters in the rest of Lynch's work—are strange, cartoonish creatures moving rather blankly though a haze of atmosphere and conscious bizarreness. Despite—or maybe because of—Lynch's penchant for having his cameras linger—well, I was about to say "lovingly", but perhaps "scientifically" is a bette word—on the actors faces during times of "grief" or other strong emotion, there's never any real indication that anyone involved actually *is* involved, that anyone is affected by the goings-on, that anybody cares or pays more than superficial notice. I do not mean to imply here that the acting is poor—on the contrary, it's generally adequate and often good, about what you'd expect from any well-made television drama—but rather that the staging, the direction, and the eye of the camera are in themselves cold, almost clinical, and, in an odd sense, haughty and more than a little superior. We are invited, not to share the character's lives or vicariously experience what they are meant to be experiencing, but instead to study them, view them, with the ego- and ethnocentricity of a bunch of 19th century antropologists coming across a previously undiscovered tribe of pygmies.

Admittedly, it is, in part, this detachment that gives *Twin Peaks* the distrubing ambience that's been so highly praised by so many people, but it's also this detachment that spoils the programme, at least for me. It's like one of those David Letterman bits where they point the camera at unknowing passers-by in the street, while Letterman makes supposedly funny comments about their clothing, or the way they walk or whatever, and the implication—hell, the declaration—is that we, the audience, are much smarter and more with-it and together than those poor slobs we're watching, and if you don't find this to be so it might just be *you* the camer finds next. This kind of thing is only marginally amusing in a seven minute sketch—spread out, an hour at a time, over ten weeks, it becomes very nearly unbearable.

I've said this before, in other columns, so I'll try not to belabour the point any more than I've already done (okay, who said, "Gee, thanks"?), but without some identification with at least one of the characters, without sympathy for them, and some kind of fellows-feeling, a television programme (or play, or movie, or novel) loses its sense of connectedness—which probably isn't one of Lynch's goals anyhow—and its sense of being grounded in at least some mode of reality. Possibly more importantly for Lynch's purposes, it also, sooner or later, loses most of its interest, except as a curiosity.

And as merely a curiosity, or an innovation, *Twin Peaks* just doesn't function especially well. Taken aspect by aspect, *Wise Guy* makes better use of mood and atmosphere, *Quantum Leap* has more unusual visuals, *Night Court* relies more on incongruity and discord (a woman talking to a log—even if the log answers—would be considered small potatoes in *their* universe), and *St. Elsewhere* and even *Dobie Gillis*, in their various times and contexts, were hipper—*Twin Peaks* may be noteworthy in its bringing together of all these facets, but it basically isn't unique. And without either audience identification and sympathy with its characters or any real innovation, *Twin Peaks* becomes—I told you to hold this thought—scarcely more than an intellectual puzzle, so that I suspect that one's appreciation of the programme may be directly correlated to whether one expects some real, tangible return for one's investment of time and effort, or is able to be happy with a box full of words.

Having said all this then, it's obviously time for me to slink back into the dank, damp, and strictly avoided corner reserved for one woman backlashes, and pull the cobwebs up over my head. If you ever do find out who killed Laura Palmer, perhaps you'll drop me a line—it doesn't matter to me one way or another, but it might do to pass the time until the re-runs of *Cheers* start. I never did see the one where Carla's husband is accidentally killed by the runaway Zamboni machine.

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92626): Well, the main focus here is on punk, though there is other stuff too (like the account of one jerk's behaviour at the SF anarchist gathering), plus poetry and graphics., Interviews include Mykel Board's Hemorrhoids, and there are plenty of live reviews. The confusing layout and cheerful hand-drawn cover sort of balance one another out. (D-68)

☐**SOCIETY PAGES** #1 ($4 from PO Box 356, Wantagh, NY 11793): A fat fanzine devoted to Frank Zappa. The centerpiece here is an interview with the man himself, or more precisely the first part of a very long interview. They also reprint plenty of mainstream press coverage of Zappa, including much on his recent diplomatic trip to Czechoslovakia. Then there's the letter from George Schultz about drug policy, and the talk with bassist Scott Thunes. Lots of trivia and tidbits here as well. (HL-72t)

SOUND CHOICE Spring 1990 ($3 from PO Box 1251, Ojai, CA 93023): An eclectic music magazine that manages to run quite an interesting news section in addition to a wide range of reviews. Russian Jazz, the Buzzcocks, FCC harassment of small stations, and very critical zine and record reviews infuse this issue with a strong personality. (S-94t)

☐**SPARKS** #1 ($3.50 from PO Box 3540, Grand Rapids, MI 49501): "The Magazine of Creative Audio", this one now incorporates **FOUR-ALARM FIRESIGNAL**, but contains stuff on a great many other innovative radio theater artists. There are interviews with John Hockenberry and Steven Oney, a rundown of groups to watch out for, and a four-page George Tirebiter comic. (S-28t)

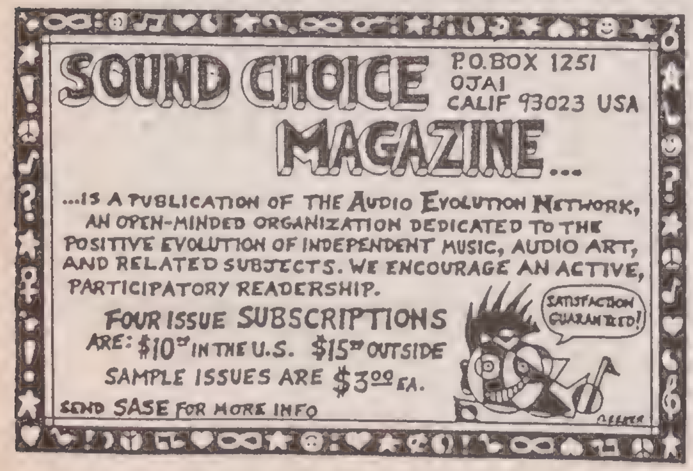
SPUN #51-54 ($1 *CASH/Stamps* from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): A combination comic, music review, and SPIN parody (though the latter is mostly in name). Doug runs some of his comics, reviews zines and records, and talks about new music. Nothing too heavy, but it's frequent and regular. #53 has contact addresses for a bunch of saucer kooks and similar folks. (D-12)

STEPPINGSTONE Vol. 1 #27 ($1 from PO Box 4264, San Francisco, CA 94101): A music zine that relies heavily on press releases for its contents. The Bonedaddys and Laibach feature in #27,. along with a phone listing for SF area bands and booking info. (D-24)

☐**STIS SKIES TOY B-23** (IRCs (?) from PO Box 74239, 160 00 Athens, GREECE): I think I have that tile transliterated correctly, but no guarantees. It's hard for an ugly American to get too much out of a Greek-language music zine besides a list of names: Leather Nun, Swans, GG Allin, New Christs and Genesis P-Orridge all appear in this issue. (S-96)

STRANGE DAMAGE #2-3 ($1.25 from 2 Highland St. #7, Whitefield, NH 03598): #2 is mostly reviews, with dozens of 'em crammed into every conceivable corner of the collage layout. There's a DC scene report, an interview with Psycho Sin, strange names for bands and some political essays. #3 is a mini-issue, 8 pages for 20¢. (S-24)

STRANGE NOISE #5 ($1 from John Rickman, 8312 Greenock Dr., Richmond, VA 23235): A slim music zine, but there's three real solid interviews here which make it well worth getting if you're into Cassette Culture at all. These are with Teen Lesbians & Animals, Chris Phinney, and Little Fyodor—three excellently strange musical producers. There's also some artistic filler and a few pages of reviews. (S-20)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SUBURBAN NIGHTMARE COME TRUE #4 (50¢ from Pinto, 203 E. 31st #311, Austin, TX 78705): A music zine (at least, they say it is) with a whole bunch of other stuff: lots of comics and even some short fiction. For bands, #4 has Blowhole and Squat Thrust. They also work in some poetry, and the continuing story of trying to distribute copies on the local college campus is starkly amusing. (S-22)

SYNTHESIS Vol. 2 #1 ($1.60/4 issues from Jason Marcewicz, 219 Napfle St., Philadelphia, PA 19111): A newsletter about electronic music, centered in the Philly area but interested in hearing from all over. #1 includes a lead article from Lauri Paisley about the rise and fall of electronic music in the 80's and some notes on Just Intonation, as well as reviews. (S-4t)

TASTE THE FLOOR #7 ($1 from Tony Schinella, PO Box 936, Astor Sta., Boston, MA 02123): There's the usual medley of album and zine reviews, and more live reviews than in most zines these days, but the real prize here is a long chat with Jack Rabid. It covers not only his publishing career with **BIG TAKEOVER** but his band Springhouse as well. A rant about photo labs and an article on pro-choice vs. pro-life give the zine a more rounded identity. (S-14r)

T-BONES NEWS #2 (50FIM *CASH/IMO* from PO Box 93, 33501 Tampere, FINLAND): Subscription in Finnish Marks includes fan club membership with a card, photos and who knows what else. Honey B. and the T-Bones play a sort of loud bluesy rock, and this is for their fans. It's mostly reprints, many in Finnish, some in Englih. (A5-24)

☐**TEEN MEAT** #2-4 ($1.25 from PO Box 161745, Sacramento, CA 95816): Some of the talk here is about music, and they even manage to profile a band or two in each issue (Stoned Jehovah in #4). But mostly this is a tongue-in-cheek meat market, with pictures of the most eligible hunks (and occasionally hunkettes) in the Sacramento area. Cheesecake for the scene. (S-20)

TEXAS BEAT Vol. 1 #5 ($20/yr from PO Box 4429, Austin, TX 78765): A music magazine that covers all of Texas, or at least all the major urban areas. Thanks to the SXSW conference, #5 is largely devoted to unsigned bands, with a couple pages of their picks for those that should get contracts. They also do a real good job paying attention to the studio and production side of indie music. (S-40t)

THIS #4 ($3 from Dan Grzeca, PO Box 1005, DeKalb, IL 60115): It's been a long while between issues but it was worth the wait if only for the interviews with the Flaming Lips and the Buzzcocks. They've also got such other luminaries as the Lee Harvey Oswald Band and Flea Circus in this issue, plus bits of art and poetry, lots of reviews, and a layout bursting with plenty of words. Nasty dog on the cover, thought. (S-48t)

THE TRADING POST #7 (25¢ from Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NY 11385): A short zine for tape traders. Chris publishes addresses and tape lists from pretty much anyone who cares to send them to him. Your ticket to a world of copyright violations and bootlegging. (D-28r)

TV EYE April 1990 (IRCs from Liivierator Vagelis, Hajopoulou 4-1, 54629 Salonica, GREECE): A Greek-language music zine that seems to be into garage and psychedelic music. The Cramps, Thee Hypnotics, and Full Circle figure in this issue. (T-4t)

UNBROKEN CHAIN Vol. 5 #2 ($2 from PO Box 8726, Richmond, VA 23226): A newsletter for Grateful Dead fans, of which there are still a whole lot out there. They print coverage of the recent Spring Tour in this issue, from mainstream papers to notes from long-time fans. News and rumors are also passed on, and editor Laura Paul Smith does good work in keeping social ideals high here as well. (S-16r)

☐**UNDER CONSTRUCTION** #2 ($2 from M. Guthrie, 84 Hillary Ln., Penfield, NY 14526): A relatively new music zine from the hardcore and straightedge scenes, though they're not exclusive about the latter. Mostly it's interviews and well-printed photos, with Brotherhood, Killing Time, and Uppercut all getting a slice of the pages in this issue. (S-30r)

UNDERGROUND PRESS #2 ($1.25 from Christopher Dunham, 185 Oakwood Ave., Troy, NY 12180): Hey, a punk zine for the local scene, great! These folks talk to Stigmata and make a phone call to Tim Yo from **MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL**. They also track down Leeway, review a bunch of records, and give a rundown on all our local bands. Comes with a sticker and who knows what other goodies. (S-20r)

UNSCENE #1 ($1 *CASH* from PO Box 7101, Fullerton, CA 92634): A zine of music and aggressive social action—their arguments for vegetarianism, for example, tend to be straightforward and blunt. On the music side, there's an interview with the Instigators, lots of art, and notes on making your own zine or otherwise getting involved with the scene. (S-28r)

UNHINGED #6 (£1.90 from Paul, The Old Schoolhouse, Yatesbury, nr Calne, Wilts SN11 8YE, UK): A fine zine of psychedelic music, garage rock, and other goodies. This issue has Bevis Frond, the Third Ear Band, and a longish interview with seminal fanzine publisher Greg Shaw (**WHO PUT THE BOMP**). The centerfold pullout has zillions of fine-print reviews, and there's a free Walkabouts flexi included. (A4-44t)

VICIOUS HIPPIES FROM PANDA HELL #9 (50¢ (?) from PO Box 34, Portland, OR 97207): A small zine of mostly reviews, although they do a few interviews (not necessarily on music—one local author talks about boxing in this issue). Cheerful and irreverent and printed on brightly colored paper. (D_20r)

VOODOO CHILD #19 ($12/yr from PO Box 374, Des Plaines, IL 60016): The newsletter of JIMI, the Himi Hendrix Information Management Institute. Yes, there's still new Hendrix material being issued every month, and these folks seek to catalog it all, not to mention carrying a lot of it in their "for sale" section. They also print reviews, retrospectives, and notes on the continuing effects of Jimi's music. (S-8t)

WAJLEMAC #8 ($1.50 from PO Box 312, Larkspur, CA 94939): This issue has what may well be the last Agnostic Front interview you'll ever see, now that the band seems to have gone down the tubes. They also talk to SNFU, put some pages into a Sweet Baby tour diary, and review a bunch of records (the latter with a format suspiciously similar to that of MRR). A few essays, silly astrology and advice columns, and plenty of nasty letters also find their way in. (S-40t)

WAKE UP! #5 (Inquire from 11 rue Mantelon, 49100 Angers, FRANCE): A large music review zine stuffed to the top with information. Pages of record reviews are followed by pages of reviews of music-oriented magazines, including a review of **FF** that calls it a goldmine. The rest of the magazine is filled with photographs, articles and interviews with bands and others. A full-sized poster reproducing the magazine's cover is included within. Despite a fondness for English words, the magazine is in French. This is a goldmine of its own. (S-88t)(reviewed by Geof Huth)

□**WASTE PAPER** #26 ($1 (?) from 638 E. 13th Ave., Denver, CO 80203): Music coverage that actually tries to review things in depth, and mostly succeeds. There's a comparison of four "industrial dance" albums, a look at last year's compilation platters, a dissection of the lyrics of Thin White Rope. Treads a fine line of pretentiousness at times, but mostly the editor seems to know enough to pull it off. (S-32)

WAVELENGTH #113-115 ($15/yr from PO Box 15667, New Orleans, LA 70175): A guide to New Orleans music. They tend to focus on uniquely Southern stuff—Zydeco in #114, Zouk in #113—but also keep tabs on leading indies fro Bongwater to Titanics. Great coverage of the local club and festival scene, plenty of reviews, and good attention to blues and jazz stand out here. (S-40t)

□**WHERE'S TOMMY?** Vol. 1 #3 ($1 from Jamie Trecker, PO Box 87, Hampton, CT 06247): Despite the address this one comes out of the scene in Syracuse New York. Although their major features are definitely music-oriented (check out the cool Genesis P. Orridge interview in this issue) they branch out and review everything from comics to bookstores to places to eat in the Syracuse area. (S-32t)

□**WHITE NOISE** #24-25 ($1 (?) from PO Box 1564, Pt. Roberts, WA 98281-1564): A Christian music zine with a punk layout rather reminiscent of **SICK TEEN**, with things spilling off in all directions and every square inch packed. They feature a really good list of fanzines, intelligent ruminations on the direction of Christian music, plus the usual interview and review stuff. (S-8r)

WHITE THRONE #6 ($3 from PO Box 20577, Castro Valley, CA 94546): A zine for Christian heavy metal enthusiasts—there are a fair number of bands out there catering to this audience. Bands like The Crucified, Death Angel and Holy Soldier are featured here, along with tons of album and demo reviews. This is also the first zine I've noticed demanding only CS and tapes for review—"Vinyl is dead". (S-48r)

□**WHUS** 1990 (Donation from WHUS Radio, University of Connecticut, Box U-8R, 2110 Hillside Rd., Storrs, CT 06269-3008): An annual program guide for WHUS, the U.Conn. station. It's mostly descriptions of what you can hear, but they also get in a few pages of reviews, some thoughts on subjects like heavy metal or women's music, and lots of cool art (thanks to our old pal Joey Zone). (S-24t)

WIRE Vol. IX #II ($6.50/6 issues from 2319 N 45th #143, Seattle, WA 98103): The music zine of a fine college radio station int he Northwest. They print their schedule, but that's a small part of the fun. Stories in #2 cover the history of Funkadelic, Thin Whit Rope, Beat Happening, and more. A good source for college radio music info. (S-32t)

□**WONDEROUS STORIES** Vol. 1 #3 ($3.50 from PO Box 85, University Sta., Syracuse, NY 13210): "The Yes fan magazine for all good people", this one is mostly concerned with tracking the post-Yes careers of various band members. They carry reports on concerts and on meeting the musicians, feature articles, and some networking pages to bring fans together. (S-16t)

□**WORMFEAST** #2 (50¢ from Kevin Callais, 1405 Perrin, Arabi, LA 70032): A small music zine with a sort of confusing layout but some pretty good features. This time they talk to Gwar (I tire of their posturing, but I guess it still sells big), Die Kreuzen and Fugazi. There's also music reviews and some tales of happenings around the Mississippi/Louisiana area. (D-20r)

WRITER'S BLOCK #6 ($2 from Mike Appelstein, PO Box 271, Spotswood, NJ 08884): A nice varied range of interviews in this issue: Spiral Jetty, Walkabouts, Barbara Manning, an Glass Eye among them. I quite enjoyed the chatty zine review column, and the record reviews were a lot of fun too, providing some overview of college rock and associated musics. Not comprehensive, but it puts enough space in to tell you something in depth about the releases it does cover. (S-30r)

□**YOU CAN'T HIDE YOUR LOVE FOREVER** #4 ($2 from David Segal, 608 S. Woodward #3, Birmingham, MI 48009): With a title like that it was a bit odd to find Lush as the first band interviewed, but they fit right in with the rest of the contents: My Bloody Valentine, Loop, Vulva, and World Domination Enterprises. They also present a brief history of Noise in music and have some bad things to say about the Sub Pop record label and its junkies. (S-32r)

ZEEEEEN! #7 (3 IRCs from PO Box 273, Leongatha 3953, Victoria, AUSTRALIA): A music zine which doesn't do a whole lot of reviews but does them very well, listening enough times to really dissect the records reviewed. Paisley cover, an essay on punk and its effects, Daniel Johnston, Eleventh Dream Day...it hops around a good deal. While they last, orders will include **BRICK**, a zine of pop culture and film reviews, from the same address. (A4-20t)

□**ZOMBIE SQUAD** #3 ($2 from 1202 Dorchester Ave., Ottawa, ONT, K1Z 8E4, CANADA): A punk/hardcore zine with mostly interviews, and a fine lineup it is. This issue they talk to Henry Rollins, Circle Jerks, the Dickies, UK Subs and 76% Uncertain, to drop just a few big names. Pretty good photos too. (S-24r)

40 PAGES OF JUSTICE: THE RANCID VAT STORY ($5 from Horton Reflex c/o Bluebird Records, 1714 Cole St., Enumclaw, WA 98022): A booklet meant to accompany a boxed set 7" record from the punk band Rancid Vat, but available separately for this price. I haven't heard their music—MRR called it "noise" and "punk"—but booze and partying seem to be more important to the band image anyhow. Features lots of recollections of wild years, press clippings, and notes on band history. (HL-40r)

ABOLISH ALL PRISONS! (SASE from BAD Brigade, PO Box 1323, Cambridge, MA 02238): The second broadside from the Boston Anarchist Drinking Brigade. This one concisely presents the anarchist case against prisons, pointing out at length that they don't work, aren't humane, and that there are alternative means for deterring violent crime. (L-1)

ABOLISH WAR! THE LAST CAMPAIGN ($3 from Veterans For Peace, PO Box 3881, Portland, ME 04104): A strong and straightforward statement of the reasoning by which the members of Veterans For Peace have come to the conclusion that war must and can be abolished. It discusses the evolution of war, the need for peace, and what their organization has been up to. Recommended reading. (S-32t)

THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION FOUND GUILTY OF CONSPIRACY (Contact American Chiropractic Association, 1701 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington, VA 22209): The text of a US Court of Appeals decision that upheld an earlier finding that the AMA violated antitrust laws in trying to suppress chiropractic. It comes with some commentary and a plea to the news media to help publicize this. If you publish something and can write an appropriately professional letter, I expect they'd send you a copy. (S-21t)

James Anderson (illustrated by Larry Dickison), **THE ILLUSTRATED BRADBURY** ($5.95 & $1.50 shipping from Niekas, RFD #2, Box 63, Center Harbor, NH 03226-9729): A serious academic analysis of four of Bradbury's stories from **THE ILLUSTRATED MAN**. Anderson uses the tools of structuralism to dissect the stories and explore their themes, moving on from this to argue that Bradbury has been developing a new genre beyond SF. Difficult in places but seems solid. (HS-56t)

T.M. Anthony, **SPORT OF THE GODS** ($5 (?) from 811 Briercliff Dr., Orlando, FL 32806): An argument for a non-interest bearing currency and socialism in the tradition of Edward Bellamy. Here it's presented in an illustrated fun form, with a selection of Greek goddesses and gods explaining the idea to a precocious Neanderthal before setting his race loose on the earth. Wile this presentation doesn't tackle some of the hard problems (such as distasteful occupations, or how to integrate the system into an interest-bearing larger world), it does get across the basic ideas rather nicely. (S-56)

ARE YOU READY FOR THE DRAFT? (40¢ from COMD, PO Box 15195, San Diego, CA 92115): A basic pamphlet of draft registration: what it is, why it's not necessary, what the chances are of being prosecuted if you don't register. It includes contact information for several national draft counseling organizations. Should be required reading for every 17-year-old male in the country. (L-2t)

Eileen Arnow, **HIDEOUS BLISS** ($2.50 from 66 Edna Ave., Levittown, NY 11756): Another slightly gruesome book from Eileen, this one based on a dream from last fall. In it, a peaceful little kingdom is racked by the mind of a young caretaker snapping, leaving the people at his mercy. Deathly black film noir art and an intriguingly bizarre ending. (HL-12t)

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO BASEBALL CARDS ($3.50 from Krause Publications, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990): A fat one-shot magazine designed to introduce people to "America's fastest growing hobby". They cover everything from the history of baseball cards to horsetrading to storage to printing errors to valuing your collection. Includes some sample cards and plenty of ads. (S-138t)

Jake Berry, **PSYCLSTOMP: AN UNRETOUCHED SPONTANEOUS TEXT** ($3 from Sir Realist Press, PO Box 862, Athens, OH 45701): An extended experiment in typewriter play, with occasional flashes of Joycean wordplay above the sea of disconnected words and typed pictures. Jake seems to be developing a unique artform, but I'm not sure he's demonstrated it is more than random yet. "missouri brown old evil drunk and heaving catfish blood" is a fair sample. (D-28)

Grace Braun, **3 PAGES OF VERY BAD LUCK WILL 7 SAVE** ($1 from Golden Book, 316 Parkovash Ave., South Bend, IN 46617): A mini consisting of photocopies of hands together with a text on superstition and luck. The latter is written in black on a black background and is more than a little difficult to decipher. Also includes some cryptic luck drawings. (M-8)

D. Castleman, **ON POETRY** (50¢ from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): A short essay on the distinction between popular and enduring poetry. Castleman argues that styles are transitory, whereas the real test of a poem is how long we keep coming back to it. Somewhat reactionary, but with a few good points. (D-8r()

Doug Christie, **FREE SPEECH IS THE ISSUE!** ($4 from C-FAR, PO Box 332, Rexdale, ONT, M9W 5L3, CANADA): Christie is a lawyer in Canada, and this is a transcript of his remarks to Canada's Supreme Court during the Keegstra case. Keegstra was charged under a law which prohibits "promoting hatred" against any group—he's a Revisionist. Christie makes a strong case that this law violates Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms and is a damned bad idea to boot. (D-24t)

Garry De Young, **OUTRAGE!** ($3 from De Young Press, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252): This is the tale of some of Garry's encounters with the courts fifteen years ago, attempting to fight pro se for his rights not to be discriminated against as an atheist. It contains a strong indictment of the legal system and some notes on what he sees as systematic repression of the many at the hands of the few. (D-9t)

Tim Donovan, Various Titles (from 7 Ashland, Manchester, CT 06040): Tim sent various of his pieces, usually double-spaced and a couple of pages long, although some are only a single sheet. **THE ULTIMATE MIDEAST EXPLOSION** ($1) suggests a scenario leading to nuclear war in the region. **THE DEMISE OF LIBERTARIANISM** (25¢) suggests that truth and liberty are incompatible. **THE FALL OF ROME** (25¢) proposes that the provinces diluted the core of the Empire. **THE TRIUMPH OF FASCISM 2012-2089** ($2) is more speculative future history. **TOWARD A REVERSAL OF VALUES** (25¢ & SASE) argues that democracy and freedom are luxuries we can no longer afford. **HITLER VINDICATED (TO SOME EXTENT)** ($1) suggests that our destruction of the German state led to a lot of modern problems. **TWILIGHT OF DEMOCRACY** ($1) suggests once again that democratic institutions are outmoded and dangerous.

Twilight Zone style twists ("Maxie's") to conspiratorial history ("Gideon's: The Scout", in which General Custer gets some advice). There's also an illustrated short story by Mark Perry and fine cover art from Jim O'Barr. (S-48)

CHAOS COMIX #15 (25¢ & postage from 821 Wollaston St., Victoria, BC, V9A 5A9, CANADA): A collection of short comics spanning the years from the hippies to the punks, Hip and Yip to Suicide Al, to be precise. Picking up girls, senseless violence, punk pranks, and getting high are popular subjects here., Mostly pretty cool. (D-20)

CHAPEL ZONE #51 ($1 *CASH/Stamps* from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): A comic that seems to have a different plot every time it comes out. This time around it's the story of Irwin and Doris, thrown apart and then drawn together by the winds of UFO research. Rather strange. (D-12)

COMICS F/X #14 ($2.50 from 4731 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105): By dint of longevity this one has managed to become the most reliable independent comics review around. They have a good mix of reviews, news and features. #14 includes a roundtable with several well-known artists on the small press and an interview with Scott ("Mr. Fixx") Stevens. (T-28)

COMIC TRASH #6 ($4 (?) from Florian Engel, Nastruper Strasse 151, 4500 Oanabrück, WEST GERMANY)L: A German-language collection of underground comics and images. They run heavily in two seemingly contradictory directions. Some work is very psychedelic, to the point of op art. Other pieces are heavily into sex & death eroticism. Lots of fine art here. (A5-48)

☐**COMIX RELAY #6** (75¢ from Rick Howe, 1524-D Second Ave., Columbus, GA 31901): More words than pictures here, but this is definitely still in the small press comics universe. Howe starts off with some discussion of his own ups and downs in life, and then does an in-depth review of one particular small-press title, without the backbiting so present in the genre. (M-12)

☐**CONTINUUM** (50¢ from Concrete Caverns Graphix, 70A Greenwich Ave., Ne York, NY 10011): Sort of a graphic poem, words with drawings of the river and the happenings on its banks that the words are about. There's a fantasy or allegory feel here, and a style which is more open than usual in comics, leaving room for interpretation. (D-12)

☐**COOL COMIX** Vol. 1 #1 (35¢ & a stamp from 17550 65th Ave., Tinley Park, IL 60477): A gruesome little comic, with children getting their eyes poked out and people doing unmentionable things to their pets. It would be even more gruesome if the perpetrator had any drawing talent, but unfortunately it all comes off as quick and sloppy sketches. (D-16)

CRITICAL MASS #3 (75¢ from George Sulzbach III, PO Box 1694, Phenix City, AL 36867): A disjointed comic with a deranged Oriental restaurateur, the world's richest man having a head transplant, and a new superhero. I've seen much better collections from Sulzbach. (M-8)

☐**THE CROW #1-4** ($1.95 from Caliber Press, 31162 W. Warren Ave., Westland, MI 48185): A compelling comic I wish I'd discovered sooner, since the shock of reading four issues at once was a bit much. The story comes together slowly here, a man back from the dead to destroy those who killed him and his fiancee. James O'Barr's art is dark and multi-textured, now soft in memory, now hard-edged and violent. Plenty of gore and madness here, and the stuff to spin nightmares of. (S-32) ☐**CRUMP COMICS** (50¢ & SASE from Psst Productions, PO Box 1837, Upland, CA 91785-1837): Sloppy comics with more talent in the plots than in the art. An air of disjointed surrealism hangs over the whole as well. Best work is probably Dennis's "Loaf of Head". (D-12)

☐**DEADLINE #18** (£1.50 from 134/146 Curtain Rd., London EC2A 3AR): Oft-impenetrable but fine looking New Wave, SF, punk and just plain weird comics. There are happy dancing youth who meet space aliens, color Elvis universe centerfolds, an anti-food editorial, Scottish demise, psychedelia, and who knows what else between these covers. I was frequently puzzled, but even more frequently amused. (A4-68)

THE DEATH OF ANTISOCIALMAN Chapter 1 (50¢ from Matt Feazell, 3867 Bristow, Detroit, MI 48212): A preview of Matt Feazell's forthcoming Antisocialman graphic novel. This issue tracks Antisocialman and Cynicalman as they leave North Carolina and head for Ann Arbor. (M-8)

☐**DER SKALP #7** ($4 *CASH* from Testament Vertreib, Unistr. 5, 48 Bielefeld 1, WEST GERMANY): Rude and crude German-language comics and artwork, with a lot of pretty sick drawings including a back cover that is a kick in the pants. There is some understandable humor, some strips that are lost on me, and many obscene or distressing fantasies here. (A4-44)

DOG BITS ($2.25 from Starhead Comix, PO Box 30044, Seattle, WA 98103): The second in the Starhead series of Morty the Dog reprints, featuring the famous canine from Steve Willis. This one is called "Bits" because Morty only has bit parts in the strips. It includes the object lesson "Snake Skin" and the hilarious "Brace New Nazis of the Inland Empire", one of Steve's best strips. Worth reprinting indeed. (D-36)

☐**EARTH FIND** (50¢ (?) from Robert Pasternak, 291 Rupertsland Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R2V 0G5, CANADA): A wordless story of a vast voyage through space, from some destroyed planet to a relatively pristine one. Artist Robert Pasternak has a style which suits the story but unfortunately it is quite cramped by the mini page size. (M-8)

EMERALD CITY COMIX AND STORIES #11 ($5.25/6 issues from Wonder Comix, PO Box 95402, Seattle, WA 98145-2402): Back after a hiatus, this one still has fine comics as well as plenty of offers from Nils Osmar to teach you how to do your own. There's a new SF serial starting in this issue, as well as a bit of poetry and a review of "The Handmaiden's Tale". (T-8t)

FADE TO BLACK #4/5/6 ($1.50 & Age Statement from Frank Lloyd Jr., PO Box 486, Richwood, WV, 26261): A collection of sadistic stories and drawings, most featuring nude women being tortured in one way or another. Lots of gore, a bit of Satanism, and even one horror story with a bit of a plot. Not for the easily offended or anyone with taste. (M-24)

FINE ART COMICS #11 ($1 from Andrew Roller, PO Box 221295, Sacramento, CA 95822): Roller is continuing his quest to be known

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as the biggest asshole in small press comics, and he has an excellent shot at the title. The main character in this issue is Masturbation Man, whose ejaculatory adventures are sandwiched between imaginary small press news and misogynist editorial matter. (S-20t)

FISH #3 ($2 from Art Humble, PO Box 3232, Gloucester, MA 01930): A collection of bizarre comics in which plot takes a back seat to conspiracies and psychedelia. There is some technically interesting computer work, a golfing priest, and even Cthulhu, but it all doesn't add up to much in the way of development. Great visuals, though. (S-28)

THE FROZEN CEMENT EXPLOSION #9-12 (35¢ & SASE from Arnie Comix, T. Ferranti, 8334 Amigo Ave. #14, Northridge, CA 91324): A sketchbook-style collection of mutants, sloppy perversions, and modern culture. Ray guns, mutilated bodies, and work from a bunch of underground artists will all be found between these covers. (M-8)

FRUIT OF THE TOMB #2 (SASE from Roy Tompkins, PO Box 16022, Austin, TX 78761): A catalog of comics by Roy Tompkins, who has produced a great deal of bizarre and often disturbing adults-only work. His stuff runs to bodily distortions and gruesome reportrayals of well-known comics characters. (L-2)

☐**GEON** #2 (50¢ from Rich Howe, 1524-D 2nd Ave., Columbus, GA 31901): A threeway comics jam between Howe, George Sulzbach, and William Dockery. The end result is a series of talking heads, no plot, and precious little to get really interested in. Joint doodles. (M-8)

☐**THE GOLD PEANUT** (25¢ from National Peanut Council, 101 S. Peyton St. #301, Alexandria, VA 22314): Normally I wouldn't review mainstream educational comics in FF, but this one was so campy that I have to make an exception. In between telling kids of all the wonderful uses of peanuts, it takes us to South America to see the mysterious peanut treasure of the ages. Great fun. (S-12)

GOOD CLEAN FUN #3-5 ($1 from Gene Mahoney, 2150 Dwight Way, Berkeley, CA 94704): More from Gene and his "Elvis of Comic Strips". Existentialism, gun nuts, and despair all muddle together here. I really like the nasty sea gull in one strip. Zine editors who are considering using this material can get a copy for an SASE. (S-4)

☐**GORE SHRIEK** Vol. 2 #1 $3.25 from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): A charming little comic in the tradition of the pre-Code days (indeed, there's no seal of approval here). It features a medley of gory stories, including an unlikely revenge on a murderer and a dream turned fatal. Nightmare city. Also available is #6 1/2, with some of the best tales from volume 1. (S-36)

THE GREAT IMPOSSIBLE #2 (2 25¢ stamps "with nice pictures" from Jeff Zenick, 690 Industrial Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32310): A selection of philosophical quotes, including some from Thoreau and a verse of the Tao Te Ching, together with Jeff's intricate artwork. Somewhere between psychedelia and a mandala. (M-12)

GUBBA GUB COMICS #Vol. 3 #1-2 (75¢ from 1204 Jennifer St. #2, Madison, WI 53703): #1 has More adventures of Gud, the amorphous being stuck in a future ruled by fast food mavens. Mark Fearing has succeeded in creating a dystopia all his own, with a look reminiscent of *Blade Runner* but more threatening because of its more friendly face. #2 is a complete change of pace, with a story about an artist ahead of his times. (D-8)

☐**HAMSTER MAN** #1-3 (25¢ & a stamp from Rocco Comics, 2427 S. 58th Ct., Cicero, IL 60650): A minicomic that reminds me of Junior High School days, That's not meant to imply that all JH students are not worth paying attention to, but the art here is of the amateurish sort we used to cover notebooks with between classes. Anyhow, the hero here is a stylized hamster who is variously superhero, exterminator, and small press comics publisher. (M-8)

☐**HEY, NEETERS!** #1-4 ($1 from Saga Graphics, PO Box 1378, Belmont, CA 94002): A well-done funny-animal cartoon with a PG (at most) rating. It features car-freak artist Turbo McSwine, his friend Kit, boss Mr. Wombat, and Fanny Fox, a well-stacked babe. Oh, and don't forget Neeters, a cute little gal with fox ears. Stories are fun, with silly puns and slapstick situations. (D-12)

☐**HOLY CROW** (50¢ (?) fro Robert Pasternak, 291 Ruppertsland Ave., Winnipeg, MB R2V 0G5, CANADA): A minicomic with a moral buried in amidst the fine artwork and simple story. It's about freedom of thought, and Pasternak pulls it off pretty well, even leaving it to the reader to figure out which side the author is on. (M-8)

☐**HORROR HELL** #1 (40¢ from Greg Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): A confusing minicomic of Satanism, drugs, and bedbugs from hell. It's disjointed and confusing, as if Greg had about three times as many ideas as he could possibly get on the page. (M-8)

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOSTRADAMUS (35¢ from Arnie Comix, T. Ferranti, 8334 Amigo Ave. #14, Northridge, CA 91324): A Feghoot inminicomic form. This self-referential discussion by the master seer Nostradamus is all designed to lead up to one awful groaning pun on the last page. It works. (M-8)

☐**HVUYIM** Vol. 1 #1 ($2 & Age Statement from Michael Diana, 519 Cleveland Ave. SW, Largo, FL 34640): A collection of nasty comics by Diana and Robert Rootes. Werewolves, gratuitous nudity, blood and gore, sick sex and more romp through these pages. Comics designed to excite and disgust. (D-56)

I.A.M.R.E. #2 (35¢ from Arnie Comix, T. Ferranti, 8334 Amigo Ave. #14, Northridge, CA 91324): Two giant robots battle it out in this minicomic, taking on one another after they've wiped out the city. This leads to strained relations between their operators. Incidentally, for an extra 25¢ Tom will hand-color the cover of any of his comics in dayglo markers. (M-8)

JOHNNY B. GOODE #3/4 (50¢ from Concrete Caverns Graphix, 70A Greenwich Ave., Ne York, NY 10011): A double issue of this minicomic about a somewhat confused young musician. In these issues, he tries buying a synthesizer to improve the band's sound and zones out on MTV. (M-32)

KARKUS PRESENTS #3 (25¢ from KD Schmitz, RD 4 Box 217, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569): A small and somewhat philosophical minicomic. It traces one being's travel from dark to light and back to dark again, and may or may not be making a rather profound point. Sort of inscrutable. (M-16)

KING-CAT COMICS AND STORIES #14-16 (35¢ & a stamp from John Porcellino, 1954 Brookside Ln., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194): A collection of finely-wedged comics. There are real-life stories, dreams, a confusing serial called "The Violent Garden" in which the episodes do not come in order, and a continuing watch on the doings of

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Mark Trail. #15 is an all-Spanish, all-animals issue. Delightfully strange. (D-12)

LEQEAULT DES SANTIERS ($1 from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre de Coubertin #5, Montreal, QC, H1V 1A4, CANADA): Confusing surreal comics. The Residents show up on one page, strange sexual practices on another. There are grinning loons and a brief "history of nothing". (M-8)

LUGUBRIOUS LAUGHS #8 ($2 & a stamp from Frank Young, 1112 S. Magnolia Dr. #V-203, Tallahassee, FL 32301): Frank draws well and does near background work—but his comics read like he stayed out in the sun a bit too long. Take "Schlep-Dawg" for example, an overgrown mutt who finds himself elected emperor of the world, only to end up on the moon later thanks to his absentmindedness. Then there's the lifelike portrayal of a dead-end theater job. Strange. (D-32)

MARVELOUS MARTHA'S COMICS #4 ($1.50 from PO Box 10696, Minneapolis, MN 55458-3696): A collection of surreal comics and strange writings. I enjoyed Richard Gatten's tour of Hell Lite (especially for Baby Boomers) and the dark fantasy world of the uncredited "Show House". There's a lot of strange dogs in this issue too. (D-52)

MEAN STREETS #3 (50¢ from Concrete Caverns Graphics, 70A Greenwich Ave. #186, New York, NY 10011): No art here: this is about comics, not a comic itself. Two continuing features stand out here. The first is the "Current 5" lists, which gives people a chance to discuss books they're reading now without worrying about picking the Best Of All Times. The second is a new column on censorship and market pressures in the comics world. (D-8t)

MELODY #5 ($2.50 & Age Statement from Kitchen Sink Press, No. 2 Swamp Rd., Princeton, WI 54968): The true story of the nude dancer Melody continues, slowly but surely. In this issue we meet more of her family, and see some of the strange tensions which her orgy-filled lifestyle brings to the clan. The book closes with a portfolio of striptease sketches including a rather gross offering from Julie Doucet. (S-24)

□**METALSTORM** (50¢ from Greg Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): A minicomic sketchbook, with lots of drawings but little or no plot. Greg seems to be laying with a variety of concepts from various fantastic modes of thought, groping towards something worth continuing. Has a half-finished look about it. (M-24)

MISC! #34 ($1.50 & 45¢ postage from Randy Paske, 4841 Birch Ln., Gilbert, MN 55741-9631): A nifty collection of comics in a mini format. This time around Randy and Bob decide to go out hunting, and discover first that deer are hard to find and second that hunters are not as macho as they seem. Supporting features include some Matt Feazell work and "Quaker Man", about an irate breakfast cereal merchandiser. (M-40)

MOE AND DETRITUS #7 (75¢ from David Lee Ingersoll, PO Box 15082, Santa Rosa, CA 95402): In this episode, our intrepid heroes manage to ingest another dose of the fearsome hallucinogen PKD666. The results are wild, a bit screwy, and definitely entertaining. These new wave hipster punk druggies are welcome to invade my space any time. (M-12)

□**MOLIS** #2-3 (25¢ & a stamp from Rocco Comics, 2427 S. 58th Ct., Cicero, IL 60650): Stick-figure comics with a sort of Roadrunner ambience—Molis seems to spend most of his time fruitlessly chasing Slick Stick around with a variety of lethal plans. Pretty poorly drawn. (M-8)

MOTOR CHILD #4 (25¢ or a stamp from Tim Paxton, MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): A somewhat random comic that hops back and forth between several levels of reality. In #4, one comics character discovers that his life is being run by other comics characters that he thinks he imagined in the first place. (D-4)

MUD #3 ($1 & 45¢ postage from Russell Christian, 137 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11205): Another collection of bizarre humor and other things from Russell, who seems to see the entire world as a scary, distorted place. The characters here dance around, mumble about bad things coming, interact with imaginary objects, and generally act a few bricks shy of a full load. (D-28)

□**THE MUNDANE ADVENTURES OF DISHMAN** #1-9 (75¢ or $1/2 issues from John MacLeod, PO Box 671, Guelph, ONT, N1H 6L3, CANADA): Dishman is a superhero with a rather small power: he can clean dirty dishes by teleportation. Meanwhile, as Paul Mahler, he continues to teach school and try to figure out how to use this power for teaching time, Clean line art makes this somewhat slow spoof of superheroes a joy to read—and after nine issues I find I'm anxious to know what happens next. (D-8)

□**MUNDANE TALES** #2-3 (70¢ & a stamp from Rocco Comics, 2427 S. 58th Ct., Cicero, IL 60650): A minicomic featuring a medley of mostly silly features. The two standout are the Demon Platypus From Iowa (which keeps getting into stranger plot complications) and Cynicalman, who is as un-fun as ever. Some of the art is pretty poor, but overall it's in the upper ranks of mini anthologies. (M-28)

□**NOZONE** #1 ($1.50 from Knickerbocker, 1 W. 64th St. #5B, New York, NY 10023): Environmentally conscious comics that takes time out to laugh at the Movement as well—the advice column is a wicked satire of the drive to be socially correct. Most of the comics, though, are anything but funny: they feature ozone holes, gas masks, pollution, and industrial accidents. Includes a stencil in case you wish to take action against some polluters. (S-40)

□**OMOWALE** #2 ($1 from By Any Means Necessary, PO Box 111271, Omaha, NE 68111-5271): A comic from and largely directed at the black community. The various strips here all have morals to them, not heavy-handed, but easily discerned all the same. There's also some letters, a history of black characters in mainstream comics, and notes on the death penalty in the US. (S-16t)

WHEELER 1990

PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER SPECIAL #3 ($1.69 & Age Statement from Randy H. Crawford, 911 Park St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-6241): A collection of erotic sketches, paintings and comics, together with a short incest story. No overall plot, but a variety of styles and body shapes of women are on display here. (D-8 & M-8)

□**PUNK! KOMIKS** ($1 from Number Four, W163 N11525 Windsor Ct., Germantown, WI 53022): A small minicomic that comes with a couple of stickers, including a gory postcard-sized "Stomp Out Police Brutality" one. Inside there is some disgusting chowtime and a few small bombs to ruin the day. Aimed at the deranged. (M-4)

THE QUEENA WES COVEENER (35¢ from Arnie Comix, T. Ferranti, 8334 Amigo Ave. #14, Northridge, CA 91324): A comic rendition of a strange and wacked-out country & western song. The Queen of West Covina proves to be a strange person indeed, and these adventures make for better rhyme than logic. (M-8)

□**RALSTON THE GOOSE** #4-5 ($2 & Age Statement from Tyrone McCloskey, PO Box 210107, San Francisco, CA 94121-0107): I don't think I understand this stuff, but I like it. McCloskey's work is vaguely reminiscent of the classic "Dreams of the Rarebit Fiend" in its psychedelic surrealism, even if the boils and bowel movement do make it more graphic. The Goose himself is a sort of Everyman, wandering through a warped landscape in search of self-knowledge. Plenty of material for psychological analyses here. (D-12)

□**RENAL FAILURE #91** (50¢ from Roy Tompkins, PO Box 16022, Austin, TX 78761): A selection of collage and wild drawings which don't seem to add up to a whole lot. There's an operation in progress, a cowpoke not eating his plate, the sales of DDT, and who knows what else tucked away in here. (M-8)

RIGID CONDUIT (50¢ from Crystal Rain Research Agency, PO Box 866, Manchester, GA 31816): Another minicomic from the Dockery/PD Wilson orbit, now adding Maxine as a writer. There's an overall environmental feel to this, with a superhero not quite sure that he wants to get involved in saving mankind. (M-8)

□**RIP OFF COMIX #26** ($4.50 from Rip Off Press, PO Box 4686, Auburn, CA 95604): A special theme issue, devoted to "Vampiric Cowboys"—and a very strange one it is indeed. Obviously many of the artists didn't know what the heck to do with this, and self reference and strips petering off into nothing run high. But there's interesting work from Mary Fleener, J.R. Williams and Wayno, among others. (S-48)

SACRATOMATO COMICS #4 (50¢ from Lynn Hansen, PO Box 59681, Homewood, AL 35259): A collection of single-page minicomic drawings, mostly with a vegetable theme. There's no surpassing genius here, but Mary Fleener's "Bad Potatoe" is sort of amusing and "Hellraisin" brought a groan to my lips. (M-8)

□**SARCAZZO MAN** ($1.50 & 65¢ SASE from Dave Kocher, 4506 Darcie Dr., Erie, PA 16506): A new comic strip featuring a superbeing whose main characteristics are that he is sarcastic and fat. Most of the pages here are devoted therefore to food and insults. Though the strip is well-drawn, I didn't find the basic premise all that funny. So it goes. (HL-16)

SEATTLE STAR #21-22 ($1 from Starhead Comix, PO Box 30044, Seattle, WA 98103): A tabloid of comics and reviews and other goodies. #21 is entirely devoted to the works of Michael Dougan, whose tales of growing up in Texas are vaguely reminiscent of some of Lynda Barry's work. #22 goes even farther afield to present a selection of works from Finnish artists. (T-20t)

SELF PUBLISHER Vol. 2 #2 (75¢ from Dimestore Stories, PO Box 40391, St. Petersburg, FL 33743-0391): A newszine from the somewhat annoying Ian Shires, who seems convinced that his idiosyncratic attitudes make him the pro of the business despite the unappealing look and feel of his zine. Still, you can find a bunch of small press comics reviews here, and he does manage to stay with the little guys, so it;s not a flop. I just find his braggadocio rather unappealing. (HL-24r)

□**SHE MAKES ME DO THINGS #3** (50¢ from Arnie Comix, T. Ferranti, 8334 Amigo Ave. #14, Northridge, CA 91324): A collection of work from several artists, all illustrating the title concept. Some of the things she makes him do include eating tofu-anchovy dip, growing a third eye, wearing polyester pantsuits and making a green salad out of plaster. (M-16)

SHITFIRE #1 (25¢ from Greg Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): A minicomic with the underlying theme of "working in the fart factory". Greg packs more bad language in these pages than you can shake a stick at, along with a surreal plot (if you want to call it that) and quite primitive art. (M-8)

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SHRIEK #2 ($4.95 from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): A classy horror comic. Some of this stuff is fairly tame, like "Finnegan's Wake", just a simple ghost story. Other bits, like Stanley Wieter's short story "The Toucher" or the lead comic by James Robinson & D'Israeli, are more gruesome. This one might keep you awake nights if you're not careful. (S-48t)

□**THE "SO WHAT" CHRONICLES #1** (2 25¢ stamps "with nice pictures" from Jeff Zenick, 690 Industrial Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32310): A medley of work from Jeff. There are some sketches of people drawn at the mall, a verse from the Tao Te Ching illustrated with intricate mandala work, and the story of how Jim chose the name "Wheatcake Productions" for his publications. (M-12)

□**SQUOLT #1** ($2 & Age Statement from John Connell, 1803 Mission St. #136, Santa Cruz, CA 95060-5296): A collection of comics from the strange to the obscene to the blasphemous. Satan steps in on a few pages to introduce strange and disgusting sexual practices, there's monsters and beauties from the future, and a strange story about a boy and his penis. Certain to offend almost anyone sooner or later. (D-28)

□**STAMP COLLECTION #1** $1.50 & 45¢ postage from Randy Paske, 4841 Birch Ln., Gilbert, MN 55741-9631): A reprint of some minis done by Paul Tumey years ago, featuring the Stamp, a superhero with the powers of a stamp. One problem with this is that no one, not even the hero, can quite figure out what these powers are. Drawing is poor at start, but increases to competent by the end of the book. (M-48)

STARHEAD'S MINI-COMIX DISCOUNT PAK ($2.45 from Starhead Cömix, PO Box 30044, Seattle, WA 98103): A collection of minicomics mounted to a shrinkwrapped card. It includes Jim Blanchard's "Psychoptic", XNO's "Spooks in Space", and Him Siergey's "Big Dick Comics", plus work by Roberta Gregory and Art Penn. A nice set. (M-40)

□**STORM WARNING** ($2 from Starhead Comix, PO Box 30044, Seattle, WA 98103): "Four Tales of Despair by Steve Willis". The style is distinctively Willis, but there's no Morty Dog here—not that it matters, as the bizarre sense of black humor remains. I quite enjoyed "Rainmaker Painraker", about an extremely reluctant Messiah. Mind-bending detailed surreal artwork and a joy to behold. (D-32)

TALES FROM ROSLYN #6 ($1 from Mailbox Books, PO Box 1278, Roslyn, PA 19001): The continuing comic-strip story "An Afternoon Tea", featuring Fan and Maabl, the latter's overgrown and busty sisters, and some backwoods aliens. Action, adventure, cheap thrills, it's all here. Don't know where Ed Zolna is going with this story, but I'm enjoying the trip. (M-24)

TALES OF THE DESIGNERREAL UNIVERSE #3 ($1.50 from Boxholder, PO Box 581, Seattle, WA 98111): A collection of comics including some decidedly surreal sexual material. Along with things like "Pro-Choice Comix" and buxom policewomen, they've dredged up two pages on a color TV process that apparently never happened. Full-color surreal covers to boot. (D-24)

TESTOSTERONE CITY ($1.25 from Starhead Comix, PO Box 30044, Seattle, WA 98103): A Peter Bagge micro-comic with a lot of his characteristic rude drunk typical teenagers. In a series of bizarre single panels, it explores the essential parts of a proper young male lifestyle: fast cars, beer, stroke mags, Led Zeppelin, and other things half of us remember well. (MM-16)

THROKK #12 (75¢ from Matt Broersma, 222 Harrison Ave., San Antonio, TX 78209): A classy comic, halfway between mini and digest size. In this issue, Throkk (a barbarian) finds himself on a rather Heavy Metal-ish airship, wandering through the clouds. By the end of the story he seems to have fallen overboard, which may bode ill for the future. Too bad, I likes this installment. Jake the Rabbit and Maureen step in for a backup feature. (D-24)

TICOUNE ZE WHIZ TORNADO #4 ($2 (?) from Luc Girard, 1576 boul. St.-Joseph #2, Montreal, Que., H2J 1M7, CANADA): Harsh, angular visual images combined with French text (when there is any text at all). The plot seems even more disjointed and jumbled than usual in this issue. It also includes a brief history of the artist's career. (D-30t)

(S-90t)

☐**CRUDE** #6 ($2 from 8385 French Rd., Alpena, MI 49707): A reasonably basic music zine, featuring interviews with Billy Bragg, Insight and Trees (among others) in this issue. Lots of photos, a cool trippy fluorescent cover, and mini inserts of poetry and text and art help it stand out in the design department. (S-25)

THE CUTTING EDGE #73-74 ($9/12 issues from Dan Kennedy, 8303 Hilton Way, Orlando, FL 32810): Christian Contemporary Music coverage that isn't separatist; Dan will also review secular releases if they strike his fancy. Besides lots of reviews and ads from folks selling music stuff, #73 has an interview with Marc Plainguet and some recommended zine reading. #74 talks at length about a previous interview and some of its unintended side effects. (S-16t)

☐**DAVE** #1 ($1 (?) from 20 Hudson Pl., Weehawken, NJ 07087): I dunno, I guess this is music, at least they review Nude Swirl and look at the life of Martha Quinn. There's some Batman fiction and a dirty letter about Elvis, a comparison of the mods to Mr. Spock, and some reviews of major-label tapes. Perhaps a parody of music zines. (S-24)

☐**DAYTON SUCKS** #1 ($1 from Spike c/o W.D.L.Z., 4336 Byesville, Blvd., Dayton, OH 45431): A page of news from the Dayton scene, followed by some anti-racist art, reprinted zine reviews, and ads. Not a lot here, but then as Spike notes, the scene is pretty dead around Dayton right now. (S-8)

☐**DEAD BORING** #1 ($1 from Mark Plaid, 4487 290th, Toledo, OH 43611): Mostly music, although there is an article on how to do proper dialogue when drawing your comics and notes on a talk by George Takei. For interviews they've got Tragic Mulatto and Bim Skala Bim, among others. Quite a bit of art is floating around too. (HL-44)

DEAD JESUIT GAZETTE #3 (25¢ from Darryl Unger, 249-2 Edwards St., Binghamton, NY 13901): A small and sloppy zine from a band that's not all that polished in its music either. They plug their own products, review a few others, and collage together some contemporary Americana. (S-2)

DEADZINE #2 ($1 from Steve, PO Box 267, Otisville, MI 48463): The biggest names in this little music zine are Chemical People (who sound more sensible than in most other interviews they've done) and Sockeye. Obviously the zine is not focused on mega-stars. They do a few zine reviews as well as a smattering of art. (S-16)

DECAPITATED #5 ($5 from Panos Tzanetatos, Aspasias 55, 15561 Athens, GREECE): This one was simultaneously issued in Greek and English...must have been a phenomenal amount of work. Lots of photos and bands here, with Venus Fly Trap, Political Asylum, Satanic Malfunctions and Raped Teenagers among those getting major press. Plenty of reviews too, plus editorials on abortion, pornography, football and other matters. To top it all off there's a hard vinyl EP featuring four Greek bands tucked inside. (A4-64r)

DECONTROL #101 ($1 [checks to "cash"] from Crash Rats, PO Box 404, Duluth, GA 30136-0404): The editor has moved and apparently escaped parental censorship for the time being, sot his one is back with a better than ever selection of stuff. There's interviews with Bad Brains and Circle Jerks (both originally intended for another defunct zine, whose history fills several of these pages), some reviews, and a chat-by-mail with Rhythm Collision. I hope Crash can keep out of the censorship clutches for a while. (S-14r)

☐**DIE FAT PIGGY DIE!!!** #1 (65¢ from John Utjsen, PO Box 134, Waynesville, MO 65583): Despite the title this is a fairly upbeat and straightedge fanzine. After the editor announces his opinions on the greatest bands of all times, the remainder of the pages are given over to an interview with Base Apes, who seem to be a sensible and committed band. (D-12)

DIFFERENT DRUMMER #6 ($1.50 from Erin Hooper, 3300 Topaz Ln. #C-1, Fullerton, CA 92631): A Christian music zine that seems to have pretty strong roots in the punk scene; Erin is at home with stuff that would be too hard for some other music zines. There are some evangelical articles, but mostly the content is reviews, of bands and albums both. There's also an article on the Greenhouse Effect in this issue. (HL-26r)

DIRTY LINEN #28 ($6 from PO Box 66600, Baltimore,. MD 21239-6600): This one is still doing a fine job of covering world, traditional and folk/rock musics, from Fairport Convention and Steeleye Span on out to groups I've never heard of. This issue includes talks with Bruce Cockburn and Mickey Hart, travels with Phil Cunningham, and plenty of reviews. The inside back cover is given over to a Watersons discography, and they tuck in tour schedules for everyone from Paul Adkins to Jesse Winchester. (S-82t)

DISCORDER Apr.-May 1990 ($15/yr from Room 233, 6138 SUB Blvd., Vancouver, BC, V6T 2A5, CANADA): A music tabloid that comes out of a college radio station (CITR) and goes much further. Check out April's interview lineup: Jarboe, Bjork from the Sugarcubes, The Primitives, Tad, and more. They print cool underground comics, talk to Clive Barker, and generally do their part to spread around the gospel of the alternatives. In May they do The Cramps and Russ Meyer. "Hi, staff." (T-36t)

DISCOTEXT Apr.-May 1990 ($15/yr from Box 103, 8415 Granville St., Vancouver, BC, V6P 4Zp, CANADA): Fashion, art, and music on the Vancouver scene courtesy of the Graceland nightclub in town. They review music that I seldom see elsewhere, talk about events at the club, and generally seem to be having a good time. The article on DJ "Scrappy" in the April issue is a good intro to the new ways DJs interact with their music. The May issue looks across the border with a report on the Seattle scene. (S-20t)

DOO/DAH Cycle 2 #4 ($10/3 issues from Dean Cole, c/o 47 Clark Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003): Back after an extremely long vacation is this fanzine dedicated to early rock madmen the Bonzo Dog Band. Their music is, well, odd, and the zine is just as odd, reporting on present Bonzo doings and reprinting much classic coverage. This issue includes an interview with Vivian Stanshall along with lots of other fun stuff. (L-20)

EAR OF CORN #11 ($1.50 from David Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): A music zine that is mainly interviews, and mainly with Midwestern bands. Some of those in this issue: Three Legged Dog, Just Say No, and Bloodstar. There's also pages of zine and record reviews, and a goodly dose of poetry, including yet another mini-chapbook of White Boy poems. (S-16r)

☐**ECHO LINE** #2 ($1.50 from Emmanuelle Antolin, PO Box 191561, San Francisco, CA 94119): A music zine which pulls together a lot of perspectives on the punk scene to give an overview that goes beyond the music. They talk with Martin Sprouse, Crimpshrine and Sinead O'Connor, present articles on the Gilman Street Project and Nazi Skinheads, and generally seem very aware. A fine addition to the punk literature. (S-40t)

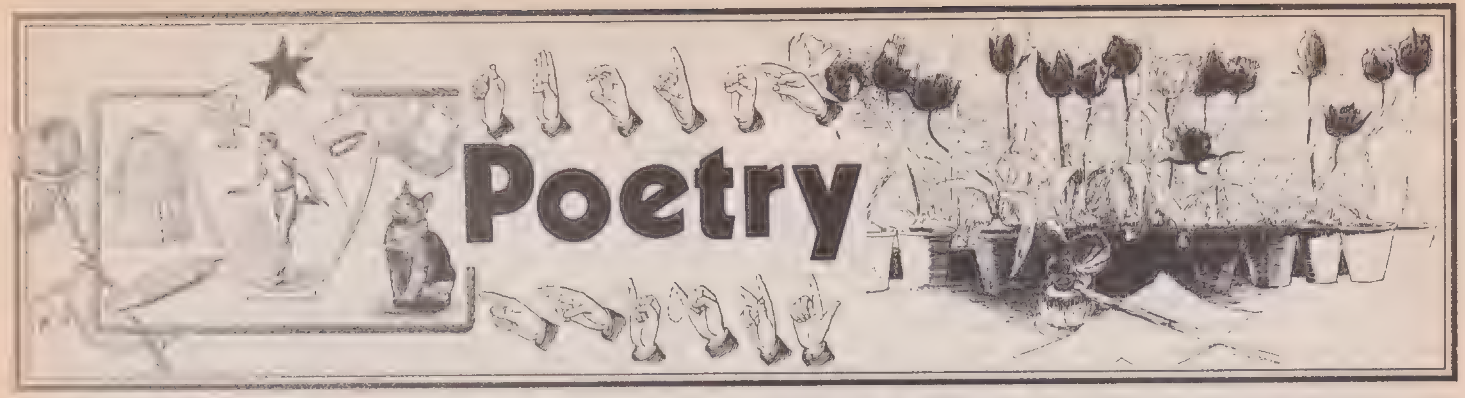
EIGHTEEN WHEELER #2 ($2 from PO Box 4256, Dunellen, NJ 08812): A music zine that manages to track down a few bands that haven't been overdone for long interviews. The Embarassment are the main attraction here, filling pages with rare photos and archive goodies as well as their words. House of Large Sizes and Buffalo Tom also get some press. Live and recorded reviews round the package out. (S-40r)

☐**EXCESS** #1 ($1 from D. Nathanson, 7 Wayne Ct., Wharton, NJ 07885): A music zine with a new interview with Henry Rollins (he's still going strong) and somewhat older ones with BGK and Krakdown. There's also various photos tucked into corners to try and enrage readers into action, from white power turkeys to kids shot in South Africa. (S-20)

EXPERIMENTAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS Vol. V #6 ($20/6 issues from PO Box 784, Nicasio, CA 94946): A wonderfully playful magazine for people who want to make sounds. There's a fascinating article in this issue on kelp horns—yes, horns made out of dried hollow bull kelp—with a lovely photo of the many-belled kelp horn, an instrument that could have been designed by Dr. Seuss. Other interests run from MIDI programs to resophonic guitars. (S-24)

FLIPSIDE #65 ($2 from PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): Another fat issue full of music from the punk scene. This time there's a fat article on the Weirdos, an interview with Jello Biafra, and another with Tad. Folks like Jesus Lizard and Sloppy Seconds sneak in too, and of course there are plenty of live reviews and classifieds and letters and records here. A punk institution. (S-96t)

FORCED EXPOSURE #16 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 9102, Waltham, MA 02254): In Lisa Suckdog's tour diary in this issue, she refers to the "fearsomely intellectual" tone of FE, and that seems to sum it up pretty well. Interviews with Glenn Branca and Savage Pencil, a bit of writing by Richard Meltzer, book and video reviews, tons of hip but sometimes obscure records...a consumer guide to one critical end of the music spectrum. But I can't help wondering if the editors here ever step back from being critics and actually



ALABAMA DOGSHOE MOUSTACHE #7 (45¢ & a stamp from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): A folded pamphlet of short poems, with themes erotic though not crystal clear—which is understandable when works by the likes of John Bennett and Paul Weinman are included. Stacey Sollfrey contributes a single fragmentary line which seems to echo with memory. (MM-7)(MG)

Michael Andrews, **THE POET FROM THE CITY OF THE ANGELS** ($19.95 from Bombshelter Press, 1092 Loma Drive, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254): This softbound book features a collection of poems and color photographs by the author (1969-1989). There's quite an array of work here, all of the highest quality. Poems like "Gumballs" are humorous and thoughtful; poems like "And Before That" and "Papa" are simply gut-wrenching. The price will seem a pittance when you realize that you have something of endless value. (D-236)(pj)

ANT FARM #1 ($8/4 issues from PO Box 15513, Santa Fe, NM 87506-5513): A new minizine for poems of four lines or less—a couple of intrepid authors get their work down to two lines plus a title. Some of the work is explicitly haiku, other pieces take on that nature because of their brevity. Can be read quickly, in a gulp, but it's more fun to contemplate a few pages. (M-40t)(MG)

Ivan Arguelles, **LOOKING FOR MARY LOU: ILLEGAL SYNTAX** ($35 from Craig Stockfleth, 2750 Market St #102, San Francisco, CA 94114-1987): A softbound book of poems, each with a B&W photo, all but one taken by Craig Stockfleth. Many readers will place this as yet another Arguelles volume, further recording the dreamy, fixing style. The words and symbols pour off the page like a heavy rainstorm—even the uninterested are bound to get soaked. (S-170t)(pj)

BELLOWING ARK Vol. 6 #2 ($2 from PO Box 45637, Seattle, WA 98145): I'd have to agree with the editor, that BA does continually publish long poems. But certainly the three very long poems (even in a tabloid, one measures these 3 in pages, not lines) featured in this issue break new ground. Jon Jech's "Family of Roses" is one of them, and definitely a must read; the author's planting of fruit trees inspires detailed, poetic recollections of earlier days. (T-28)(pj)

BLACK BEAR REVIEW ($4 from 1916 Lincoln St, Croydon, PA 19020): Of the many fine poems in this zine, Joanne Marinelli's long piece called "Before They Found Him in Neshaminy Creek" remains clearest in my mind. A dark examination of the reaction to a case of modern day infanticide. "Preston," by Liz Newall, painted a painful picture of a young person who was an oddball at school; after struggling with his large size and so many small words, Preston sadly gave-up. All in all, an impressive journal. (D-64)(pj)

Drew Blood, **DECADE OF DEATH** ($5 from Rob Brooks, c/o Hallucination Tapes, Ltd., 290 Victoria #C-1, Costa Mesa, CA 92627): The packaging ain't flashy, but this poetry cassette is well-produced. There's a constant foreground music that comes straight from your latest Sci-Fi thriller, while Drew's voice echoes from the distance. The themes play with ideas of big strong boys and little fragile boys and the woes of a macho, homophobic culture. Nothing earth shattering, but maybe of interest to some younger crowds. (pj)

BORROWED PERCEPTION #1 ($1 from Colin Sicc c/o KXLU, 7101 W. 80th, Los Angeles, CA 90045): A selection of poetry together with plenty of graphics. Most of the written offerings here are short and choppy. A good example is James Munselle's "Morning in Venice" which starts with an innocent boy, takes him into a nastier realm of lost innocence and then to death, all in 14 lines. (D-24t)(MG)

Dennis W. Brezina, **THE PERSONAL...THE POLITICAL** ($1 from PO Box 411, Churchton, MD 20733): Each of these poems is labeled as being either personal or political, but the boundaries blur when one realizes that the life described leads up to the opinions stated. Brezina has spent time finding himself, and now worries that that option is being slowly closed to others as bad things happen here. Blank verse, but not blank thoughts. (D-16)

BringBring, **WEDDING BEES** ($1 from 818 Courtenay Dr., Atlanta, GA 30306): There's a clickety-clack rhythm to this poetry, a visual feel that helps make it seem like it *ought* to mean something. But BringBring's choice of words and images is obscure and private: "I breathe the trees/and assault the shade/that paints their leaves" is one of the more memorable and clear verses here. A different voice, that's for sure. (D-16t)(MG)

BROKEN FINGERS, BLEEDING MINDS ($2.50 from Carry On Screaming Press, 4981 Hwy. 7 East, Unit 12A, Box 211, Markham, ONT, L3R 1N1, CANADA): A compilation of poetry from several people, each of whom apparently did their own page layout—leading to a notable lack of cohesion here. Everything seems to be unsigned, but it runs from doggerel to erotica to some work which tentatively thinks about exploring the bounds of language. (D-32t)(MG)

Gerald Burns, **ON HIS FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY** ($1 from PO Box 12637, Capitol Station, Austin, TX 78711): 13 poems presented in a typed manuscript with some comics thrown-in at the end. The poems are all rather long and all in a flowing, at times abstract, verse. From "In Codrescu's Corpse": "...and we cull herbs, hide deep the sharpened/spoon, Virginia's latifundia/a prison like a ship, powered by horses hauling things up its/giant hill...." These require close attention and I'm not sure whether it's always worth the effort. (S-32)

Ellen Carter & Sparrow, **VIRGINIA** ($1 from 322 E. 11th St. #23, New York, NY 10003): Joint poems written while on vacation. The words twist and turn and try to get away, as the poets play "top this" or start discussing the poem within the poem itself. It's a strange experience, a way to participate in the process of writing, and it works fairly well. Each copy comes with personalized handmade covers. (S-6)(MG)

A CHILD POSSESSED ($3 (?) from Inverted-A Inc., 401 Forrest Hill, Grand Prairie, TX 75051): A collection of poetry with some cheerful doggerel and some deep pieces on freedom. A. R. Wilkins may have managed both simultaneously in "The Walls", a commentary on the difference between freedom and attention; Aya Katz tells the story of a Vulcan/Human love affair in "The Diplomat"; Lucy Blake's "A Thought" is a new twist on solipsism. I enjoyed this chapbook. (D-27t)(MG)

Mike Cluff, **MUZZLES TO MORNING GLORIES** ($1 (?) from Drew Blood, 3410 W 1st St, Riverside, CA 92501): Although there are isolated clusters of creative verse, these poems generally fall flat. "Miss Emmy Gets It" opens with some simple but clever words: "I saw a spider/drag a fly across the grass./I'm smashed on cider/and the snake is up my ass...." Unfortunately, the author does nothing constructive with this playfulness, and the remaining poems are even worse. (D-20)(pj)

Jim Conatser, **THE NEIGHBORS** (2 stamps from 113 N. Booth St, Dubuque, IA 52001): A picture of two happy WASPs (husband

& wife) adorn the cover, but as one might guess all is not well in Mudville tonight. The inappropriate use of the word "retarded" notwithstanding, many will find kinship with these poetic critiques of middle-class America. As for their poetic value, there's nothing highly creative or lyrical, but I'm not sure there was ever such an intent. (M-8)(pj)

Robert Cooperman, **THE TRIAL OF MARY MCCORMICK** ($4 from Slipstream, PO Box 2071, New Market Sta., Niagara Falls, NY 14301): A chapbook of linked poems, telling the story of a young girl forced into sex with three priests from her parish and the tragic consequences. The poet switches viewpoints frequently, from Mary to the priests to a nosy neighbor to the trial judge and back. Ultimately it i her story, but the web that entraps her is carefully teased apart with Cooperman's capture of internal thoughts. Fine work. (D-34t)(MG)

THE COVENTRY READER (free from PO Box 18418, Cleveland Hts, OH 44118): A poetry tabloid filled with sturdy, finished work. The multiple appearances of authors suggests to me that these folks might be in need of submissions. To many poets/artists this might be inviting, seeing this is free (funded in part by the Ohio Arts Council) and perhaps more likely to reach an audience outside of poetry/art circles. There's graphics and visual poems in addition to prosaic works. (T-20)(pj)

CREEPING MALAISE ($2 *CASH* from DBPL, 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): A sampler of works of various poets who write for Drew Blood press. Mostly they're downbeat, although most also have a core of hope to cling to. Max Hoffman's "Damnation Alley" is an eerie moment in time, while Becky Tatham writes strongly obsessive poems. Stark and angular, but beautiful in spots. (D-24r)(MG)

John Darcy, **EXPLANATIONS & EXCUSES** ($6 from PO Box 453, Hughsonville, NY 12537): In "Decision" the author ponders the tool of his suicide, finally deciding to sing himself to death. Most of the work has an autobiographical component and an easy-reading style. This is one of those chapbooks that will likely have wide appeal, with a special affinity to those with some peace of mind despite their life in Western culture. (D-40)(pj)

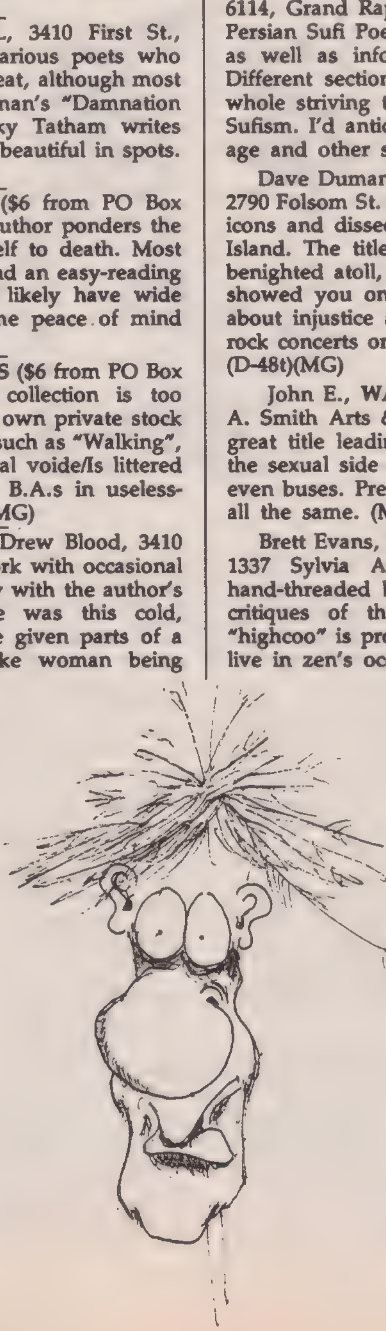
John Darcy, **SHAKESPEAREAN HITCHHIKERS** ($6 from PO Box 453, Hughsonville, NY 12537): Much of this collection is too fragmented and oblique for me, lose in the poet's own private stock of images. But there are a few shining exceptions, such as "Walking", which starts out "The urban vacuum/Like the rural voide/Is littered with/Spacewalkers/Who're college alumni/Holding B.A.s in uselessness/And literature." *That* speaks to me. (D-44t)(MG)

Maria De Maci, **BLACK ROSES** ($1 (?) from Drew Blood, 3410 W 1st St, Riverside, CA 92501): Young, novice work with occasional uncontrollable flares of creativity. The themes vary with the author's mood. Much is personal, though my favorite was this cold, disinterested poem titled "Hardware 1999": we're given parts of a sales pitch where the product is this robot-like woman being produced to satisfy men; the engineers seem to have goofed, however; a bug in the program—she bites! (D-20)(pj)

DIRT BOMB #3 ($3 from PO Box 411, Thompson, CT 06277): Poems along with a graphic series where there are two pictures, one labeled "this is art" and the other labeled "this is not art." The works tend toward the abstract, many written in a disjointed style. I searched for something I thought was lasting or even fleetingly worthwhile, but to no avail. Maybe it's a mood thing? (HS-16r)(pj)

DOGFISH HEAD #1 ($1 from Jesse Kimball, RFD 1 Box 350, Coopers Mills, ME 04341): Punk poetry from a variety of folks from the slightly deranged to the downright ominous sounding. Mostly this is pretty bleak stuff, with lines like "Got a knife in mu pocket/Handle made of hate/Blade forged from insanity..." in an offering from A. Brown. (D-24)(MG)

C. Dorn, ed., **SQUAWK: POWUMS FRUM THE TREETOPS UV LIFE** and **GURGLE: POWUMS FROM THE GULF UV LIFE** ($1.95 each from Wright & Good Publishers, PO Box 423, Yellow Springs, OH 45387): Each book is a collection of a few short poems, written by about 8 different authors. Consistent with the titles, these works are all written phonetically (for interested parties, there's a set of spelling rules available from the publishers). C. Blue's "Ar Town" displays the style: "An this I can tell yue about Yelloe Springs in the/springtime:/Few, few the dry sidewalks and menney, the/puddeld!" Both books are cute at times, but the phonetical spelling became old fast.



In addition, we also received **AIT SONNITS** by William Shakespear and **THREE NYNTEENTH-CENCHEREY AMERRICAN POWUMS** The latter was comprised of poems by Longfellow, Bryant, and Holmes. With these 3 works the phonetical style finds its place; no doubt because of the authors' sensitivity to sound. These, too, are $1.95 each. (D-20)(pj)

DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES #30/31 ($5/6 issues from David C. Kopaska-Merkel, 4801 Cypress Creek #1004, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405): A double issue of this zine of SF and fantastic poetry. There's lots of good work here, including a short piece with punch from Judson Crews, uncharacteristic works from Paul Weinman and Geof Huth, and a great rush of scary words from Robert Frazier. (D-36t)(MG)

THE DRUNKEN UNIVERSE ($8.95 from Phane Press, PO Box 6114, Grand Rapids, MI 49516): This is subtitled "An Anthology of Persian Sufi Poetry." There's an introduction to the idea of sufism, as well as information about this book of poems in particular. Different sections of the book have different thematic angles, the whole striving to meld these poems into a synthetic experience of Sufism. I'd anticipate that these works would be of interest to new age and other spiritual type beings. Softbound. (D-146t)(pj)

Dave Dumanis, **HOWELL AND OTHER CASTAWAYS** ($4 from 2790 Folsom St. #4, San Francisco, CA 94110): Dumanis takes cultural icons and dissects them: Star Trek, Disneyland and, yes, Gilligan's Island. The title poem is a long rant from the millionaire on that benighted atoll, looking at the sex and drugs and plots they never showed you on TV. The poet also has some nasty things to say about injustice and the slim hopes for ending it, whether through rock concerts or otherwise. A strong voice and an entertaining one. (D-48t)(MG)

John E., **WAITING FOR THE BUS LIKE GODOT** ($1 (?) from A. Smith Arts & Information, PO Box 976, Adelphi, MD 20783): A great title leading to a bizarre mini of poems. The poet writes of the sexual side of heaven, Donald Trump's comeuppance, and yes, even buses. Pretty surreal and hard to follow, but delicious in parts all the same. (M-48t)(MG)

Brett Evans, **THE FAST FOOD KOANS** ($2 from Gin Mill Press, 1337 Sylvia Ave, Metairie, LA 70005): A poetry mini, with hand-threaded binding by the author. Abstract and explicit poetic critiques of the fast-food franchises infesting our good earth. "highcoo" is probably the most explicit: "big fish & small fish/freely live in zen's ocean/but filet o fish?" (M-16)(pj)

Lawrence Ferlinghetti, **ASCENDING OVER OHIO** ($9.95 from Fantome Press, PO Box 888, Warren, OH 44482): A signed and numbered fine art edition of a ferlinghetti poem, printed in multiple color blockprinting on parchment paper. The poem itself is almost an anticlimax, a lyric trip with angels into the sky over Ohio. Classy, and aimed at collectors. (D-4t)(MG)

Susannah Foster, **EARTHBOUND IN BETTY GRABLE'S SHOES** ($7 from Michael Hathaway, Chiron Review Press, Rt 2 Box 111, St. John, KS 67576): A posthumous and first publication of Foster's works. The publishers indicate that Susannah was a flower child to the end, and some lines from "Losing Grace" hint at such a world view: "O come to me policeman,/come and see/what's left...all the killing in the world/will be meaningless./Have you ever heard of our city?/It is swilled with blackbirds/who speak many tongues/and we all die/dreaming./We all die/dreaming." There's many dreams here. (D-68)(pj)

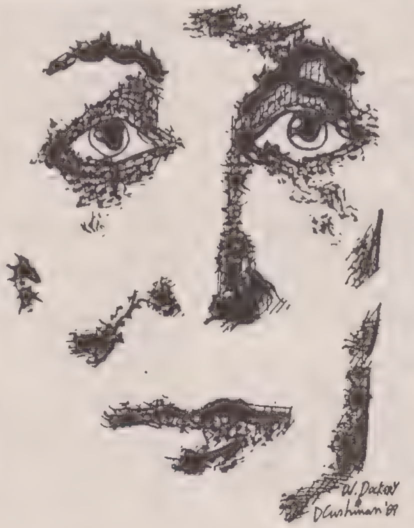
FREE LUNCH 4 ($4 from Free Lunch Arts Alliance, PO Box 7647, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677): Pay close attention! No poets in this issue, only

Thumbs up. (T-24t)

SNOW COUNTRY Apr./May 1990 ($10/yr from PO Box 2071, Harlan, IA 51593): I think this is the largest-circulation periodical I trade with, but they seem to be genuinely interested in the small press, so they deserve a mention. This time of year the focus shifts from skiing to other recreations—mountain biking, vacation drives, fishing—although there's a feature on Mammoth for those who must have that white stuff year round. Slick and with full color on nearly every page. (S-96t)

☐**SOCIALISM AND SEXUALITY** #1 (SASE from R.J. Hinde, 5437 S. Harper #2, Chicago, IL 60615): The debut issue of the newsletter of the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Caucus of the Youth Section of the Democratic Socialists of America. It is mainly aimed at people who are already in the DSA, arguing the need for more LGB perspective in the organization. Besides organizational matters there's a piece on whether the DSA should support domestic partnership legislation. (S-6t)

THE SOCIALIST Apr.-May 1990 ($5/yr from 5502 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016): The official newsletter of the Socialist Party. It talks about all manner of issues, from unionism to peace. April headlines the Greyhound strike, talks a while about peace conversion and inspects the situation in Central America and crime in this country. May has a photo essay on the failed Earth Day Plus One blockade of Wall Street. (S-12t)



SOCIAL VOMIT #8 ($1 from Mike Canich, PO Box 31, Romeo, MI 48065): Intense words and art, a fictional exploration of inhumanity and life. This issue continues the serial strip "Clyde" (he doesn't quite kill himself) and has a page of words from God, who seems to be getting a bit testy. There's also some outside contributions and more words from Mike trying to explain why he does what he does. (S-22)

SOL RISING #5 ($25/yr from Friends of the Spaced Out Library, 40 St. George St., Toronto, ONT, M5S 2E4, CANADA): The Spaced Out Library is a serious research library devoted to SF and other fantastic literature—serious enough that the name may soon be changed to the Toronto SF Library. The newsletter reports on this and other administrative matters, and includes notes on current Canadian SF as well as essays such as Jane Starr's in this issue about believable world building. (S-12t)

SOMEPLACE LIKE EARTH #8 (50¢ from Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NY 11385): A collection of guest editorials and material reprinted from the major media. It tackles topics like buying records from bad companies, food irradiation, and censorship. A six-page list of Chris's bootleg tapes and publications fills the back pages here. (D-24)

☐**THE SOUTHERN FANDOM CONFEDERATION BULLETIN** #6 ($5/yr from J.R.Madden, PO Box 18610A, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70893): A wide-roaming look through science fiction fandom in the southern states. They list conventions and zines, print fannish news, and occasionally make space for some controversy (there's discussion of handicapped-access at a particular hotel in this issue). Plenty of addresses and contacts are given for those wanting to delve more deeply into fandom. (S-28r)

SOUTHERN LIBERTARIAN MESSENGER Vol. XVIII #10-11 ($6/yr from Rt. 10 Box 52A, Florence, SC 29501): A mostly humorous look at the political and social scene, making its points by needling the government. The majority of the content is reprints, from editorial cartoons to news items that show the government as brain damaged. (S-6t)

☐**THE SPECTACLE** #1 ($1 from PO Box 460741, San Francisco, CA 94046): An updated underground litmag tucked away inside a colorful screened cover. Some writers rant about what's wrong with the system, there's an interview with Allen Cohen (whose **ORACLE** was part of the inspiration for this zine), a quotation from Krishnemurti graces one page. Essays, comics, travel—a stew of topics and concerns. (S-12t)

SPECTRUM #12 ($10/yr from 58 Webster St., Laconia, NH 03246): A selection of news briefs on health, nutrition, lifestyle and social issues. These are condensed from various sources, which are always cited. Samples from #12: "Olive Oil Lowers Blood Pressure" and "Coming Clean With Our Toxic Air". There's also a section in this issue on macrobiotics, including an interview with Michio Kushi. (S-36t)

SPIDEREYES #3 ($3.50 from M. Shane Reynolds, 4262 El Carnal Way, Las Vegas, NV 89121): Formerly **WORLDS OF SURREALISM**, this is still a heady mixture of poetry, prose, and more art than most litmags contain. John Bennet is his usual bizarre self, Cathy Buburuz treats us to some written work, and Dahstrom provides a fine portfolio of art. Primitive in its energies and deranged in its selection of words. (S-44)

THE SPLINTER #2 ($4 from Box 879, 36 Adelaide E., Toronto, ONT, M5C 2K5, CANADA): A loose and lively zine of architecture and modern thought. They cram an almost multimedia experience between these covers, using color and overlapping layouts to overload the normal mode of reading. Space for the homeless, an interview with progressive architects Brown and Storey, and a selection of unusual newsstands are among the strange things in this issue. (S-44t)

SPORTS COLLECTORS DIGEST #500 ($20.95/yr from Krause Publications, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990): A milestone issue for this tabloid for people into baseball cards, game-worn jerseys, football memorabilia and other collectibles. As with most such hobby periodicals, it's mostly ads, and some of the prices are amazing; two million bucks is the highest I spotted, though some cards can still be had for 3¢ each. This issue features folks from baseball's 500-home run club and a survey of their readership. (T-380t)

☐**SQUID CELLS** #1 (75¢ from Travis Doane, 36361 E. Enterprise Rd., Creswell, OR 97426): A medley of stuff that seems low on unifying factors except for the references here and there to giant squid. They print Dan Quayle pickup lines, calligraphed Arabic poetry, collages, drawings, and a glossary of Bushspeak ripped off from some slick magazine. (S-12)

STAMMER #2 ($2 from Steve MacDonald, PO Box 1408 Stn. A, London, ONT, N6A 5M2, CANADA): A collection of graphics and bits of writing from Steve's contacts. This time he invited "true stories" and gets several bad drug experiences, some budding sexuality, and comics from Julie Doucet. There are newspaper clippings about obsessions, a "magic pouch" with some goodies stuffed inside, and some zine reviews. (S-28r)

STARLIGHT Time of Stars 1990-Time of New Leaves 1990 ($8/4 issues from c/o Sirius, PO Box 452, 00101 Helsinki, FINLAND): A pagan journal with strong roots in the history and archaeology of Finland. They are very nature-oriented, appreciating the natural world much more than squabbles between various groups. Lots of news from Finland and points nearby, Finnish myths and history and a few notes on ritual here. (D-28)

STAR ROUTE JOURNAL Vol. 8 #2 ($10/yr from PO Box 1451, Redway, CA 95560-1451): A fun newspaper of life in reasonable rural California, from still-surviving hippies to the latest political battles. They print poetry and short stories and cartoons and interviews and, oh, lots of fun stuff. I get a warm friendly feeling from this, just knowing there are still people out there trying to live well outside the system. (T-20t)

☐**STEP BY STEP** #1 (Donation from 659 Big Ugly Creed Rd. East, Leet, WV 25536): A newsletter from youth and some adults in West Virginia focusing on a very scary subject, that of child abuse. There are several first-person accounts here, from both sides of the abuse situation, and they're strong stuff indeed. Includes some suggestions for where to go for help and how dysfunctional families can begin to heal themselves. (S-16t)

THE STERLING WEB Vol. 1 #4 ($5.50 from PO Box 38383, Tallahassee, FL 32315): A literary zine of the fantastic, from horror to SF. In this issue Donald Hornbostel's "Alien Ethics" almost takes a new tack with an old idea, while Thomas Easton's "Going Home" is a tearjerker SF story that works. There's also an interview with

Chris Lacher of NEW BLOOD magazine, plus art, poetry and more. (S-64)

STICKY CARPET DIGEST #3 ($5/4 issues from 86 Willow St., Floral Park, NY 11001): This magazine is Exhibit A in the "Why people with only dot matrix printers shouldn't use desktop publishing software" case, but once you get by the eyestraining fonts (including a truly illegible italic), you can actually find a pretty good film and video review. #3 focuses on guys with guns, reviewing a whole pile of movies from that genre as well as continuing a serialized article on Elvis's movie career. #4 has an interview with the one and only Joe Bob Briggs and a medley of reviews ranging from *Our Man Flint* to Blaxploitation flicks. The price may drop back to $3.50 for four soon, say the publishers. (S-26)

STIRSIL #4 (50¢ & 50¢ SASE from PO Box 16492, Knoxville, TN 37996-4800): An alternative tabloid whose name is an acronym for "Something That I Read Standing In Line". In this case that something might be a schedule of Earth Day events, poetry from Jeff Robinson, short fantastic fiction, or an essay on injustice in South Africa. (T-24t)

THE STONE & SLING #9-10 (Donation from Pagan Angel Press, 1205 County Route 60, Rexville, NY 14877): A newsletter keeping in touch with folks in western New York state who are opposed to having a nuke waste dump in their neck of the woods. In a little-publicized civil disobedience campaign they've largely succeeded so far, though the police have busted heads and arrested folks a time or two. Besides news, they print poetry, bits from other ecological struggles and the odd satire or two. (S-12)

STOREFRONT BAR-B-Q Spring 1990 (50¢ postage from Shawn Swagerty, PO Box 18743, 20th St. Sta., Washington, DC 20036): When I wasn't looking this one mutated from a puff-sheet for Shawn's own music to a fullblown personalzine. Now it has zine and cassette reviews in it plus longer essays that don't necessarily have anything to do with music. This time it's am account of helping to defend a clinic from Operation Rescue. (S-8r)

STORYZINE #3 ($1 from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan St., Olean, NY 14760): A litzine that focuses in on a different writer every time. This time Terri Havens is the one, with five short stories and a bit of poetry. There are some curious things here including some disturbing short horror ("Love Sick") and a fragment about a man who went too far with his kid ("A Broken Framework"). The writing is a bit clumsy in spots, but this is still worth a peek. (D-18r)

STRANGE MAGAZINE #5 ($5.95 from PO Box 2246, Rockville, MD 20847): A twice a year Fortean magazine. This special issue is entirely devoted to cryptozoology—the study of monsters and mystery animals. There's an interview with John Keel, an extensive historical article on Bigfoot, notes on Yetis, the monsters of Maryland, Canadian lake monsters...and more. It's a great, well-researched and sober introduction to a rather esoteric subject. (S-64t)

STRANGE PLASMA #2 ($3 from Edgewood Press, PO Box 264, Cambridge, MA 02238): A fine magazine of science fiction which lands a number of big names—there's a short bit here by Gene Wolfe and a longer one from R.A. Lafferty, for example. There's also a fascinating interview with Tim Powers, and another with Ellen Kushner. Charles Stross and Stephen Dedman also have fiction here, balanced somewhere in the region between traditional and experimental. Not too flashy a journal, but an exciting one. (S-36t)

STROKER #45 ($9/3 issues from Irving Stettner, 129-2nd Ave. #3, New York, NY 10003): A litmag in a rather traditional avant-garde mode, if you can imagine such a thing. Editor Stettner gives us recollections of a time spent selling brushes door to door in Los Angeles some years back, Tommy Trantino writes of Zen and other things, there's poetry, fine drawings, and more. Enjoyable stuff. (D-48t)

SUBLIME SLIME Vol. 11 #1 ($1 (?) from 21925 Meridian Ave. S., Bothell, WA 98021): A humorous look forward at the trends of the 1990s, from Dan Quayle to food, fat, and cocaine substitutes. It's been a long time since the previous issue of this newsletter, but obviously they haven't just been zoning out in front of the tube. Amusing stuff. (S-5)

THE SUBTLE JOURNAL OF RAW COINAGE #31-32 (Respectively $1 & a stamp and 15¢ & a stamp from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): More new words collected by Geof and presented in arty hand-made booklets. #31 is the "en666lical" issue, with five vaguely nasty words on colorful cardstock. #32 is another sticker issue, "Borderblur" on two bright orange stickers already pasted back to back. Hand-made language artifacts. (MM-2)

☐**SUCKER!** Vol. 1 #1 ($1.50 from 10722 West Dr. #1, Fairfax, VA 22030): A new rant and rave zine with attention to all sorts of cultural affairs. There's a comparison of a SubGenius poster to some of its competition, interviews with Jawbox and the art collective Project Icon, and some thoughts about racism in everyday life. A good strong start, that's staking out a serious position in commenting on the wider scene. (S-16t)

SUDS 'N STUFF Vol. 7 #2 ($15/6 issues from Beer Drinkers International, PO Box 566402, Oceanside, CA 92056): A bimonthly beer newsletter. This issue includes some basic beer vocabulary, news on new brews and new breweries, a profile of the new St. Pauli Girl, and more. They include a listing of coming events and a page of classified ads. (S-16t)

A SUITABLE JOB FOR A WOMAN #11 ($1.50 from Sharon Rose, 203 Talley Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37411): A letterzine for the discussion of mystery novels featuring women as protagonist or author—most of the writers here are women as well, though that's not a requirement. Mostly this is folks writing to suggest things that are worth reading, and occasionally to steer us away from the turkeys. (S-14t)

SUNCOAST AMATEUR #10 (25¢ stamp from Frederick J. Liddle, 404 Erie Ave., Tampa, FL 33606): A personalzine from Fred printed with handset letterpress type and intended for one of the more traditional amateur press associations. He writes variously of freezing weather in Florida, baseball, chance encounters with friends over the years, and other stuff. Some deadpan humor livens the stew. (M-12t)

☐**SURREALIST SKETCHBOOK** Vol. I ($2 from Erik Kaye, PO Box 656, Hadley, MA 01035): A collection of drawings done over a ten year period, of everything from microscopic fauna to dissected genitals, all with a sort of LSD-trippy embellishment to them—though not all-out psychedelia. No continuing themes, just detailed doodles on nice cream paper. (D-48)

THE SURVIVOR Vol. 7 #9 ($10/12 issues from Kurt Saxon, PO Box 327, Harrison, AR 72601): A mix of information on surviving after the collapse of civilization, bomb-making, simple home mechanics, and stranger things—like the article on Extra-terrestrials in the Bible in this issue. The letter column is always entertaining, filled with people looking for sources for all manner of dangerous things. Kurt's words on the politics of survivalism are also worth looking over. (T-16)

☐**THE SURVIVOR NEWSLETTER** Spring 1990 ($20/4 issues from P.L.E.A., 365 W. Zia Rd., Santa Fe, NM 87505): This is a support and resources newsletter for adult men who underwent abuse as children. They have a long bibliography of written work on the subject, which is constantly being updated. They also maintain a list of professionals who can help, and have material on starting a mutual support group. (S-10t)

SWORD OF SHAHRAZAD #11 ($3 from PO Box 152844, Arlington, TX 76015-2844): A litmag that devotes a lot of space to reader comments on previous issues, most focused fairly keenly on the writing. The material in this issue seems to be mainly rural in locale, ranging from realistic to quite fantastic. I was amused by Donald King's "Monster in the Doorway", although parts of this stfnal tale were a bit clumsy. (D-48t)

☐**TALES FROM THE DINER** #1 (SASE (?) from PO Box 18754, Rochester, NY 14618): A combination SubGenius and diner microzine. There's some diner writing here, an interview with a cook, recommendations on things to read. Small. (MM-8)

TALKING LEAVES #12 ($15/yr from 1430 Willamette St. #367, Eugene, OR 97401): A pretty wide-ranging New Age tabloid. Some of it strikes me as simple gobbledegook, as with the stuff about crystals, the earth's axial wobble and electromagnetic poles in one of the interviews this issue. But there are more solid things, as with Lone Wolf Circles' article on radical environmentalism or the interview with John Robbins. They also publish an extensive local directory and the amusing Swami Beyondananda column. (T-28t)

TAND #3 (The Usual *but not cash* from Mark Manning, 1400 E. Mercer #19, Seattl,e, WA 98112): A very traditional SFanzine, printed on Twiltone paper in mimeo and chockful of articles about most

Seven short untitled pieces which come together to form one poem about a quiet day in the country, with wind and flowers and memories all coming together. Gentle and unassuming. (D-2)(MG)

R.J. Neubauer, **TEACHER** ($1 from PO Box 18307, Rochester, NY 14618): A set of four short poems centered on the frustrations of helping the mentally retarded—both in the difficulties of actually getting through, and in the uncaring attitude of people in the mental health industry. Seems quite heartfelt. (M-4)(MG)

NOON BLUE APPLES #19 ($1 from Eric Wagner, 2080 E. Greenway, Tempe, AZ 85282): A poetry zine that combines modern pop culture, conspiracy theory and a rollicking view of the universe into some strange and wonderful fun-lets. Take "I Fought the Dharma & the Dharma Lost", for example, a Buddhist thought set to a popular rock tune. (S-8)(MG)

ONE PAGE Apr. 1990 (SASE from Bill Shields, PO Box 47, Youngwood, PA 15697): "A Correspondence of Social Poetry" with a strong strain of anti-militarism running through it. The issue at hands leads off with Willie Smith's "Ode to the South Sfrican Clockwork Automatic Shotgun", and later has a Shields poem about Quayle, Panama, and Vietnam. Abuse, AIDS, and cocaine are among the other topics in this stark presentation. (S-2r)(MG)

PAPER BAG WRITER ($4 from Terry A. Garey, 3149 Park Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55407): The presentation threatens to overwhelm the poetry here: the poems i this collection are printed on paper bags which are then enclosed in a larger bag. Camilla Decarnin plays with words and fantasy, Terry Garey gives us "Oatbran of the Galaxy", a cholesterol-ripping space opera; Ruth Berman's "Pyrite Fossils" combines geology and memory. Other contributors are Laurel Winter and Eleanor Arnason. (16 bags)(MG)

Sal Robert Pauciello, **SUBURBAN HOROSCOPES** ($2 (?) from 9 Stanley St, Irvington, N.J. 07111): It opens with a poem indicating that the H-bomb is the sign of the baby boom. This is followed by a cartoon of a globe where the WWIII has begun and a flying saucer is seen, puzzled, in the distance. Overall, the lyricism is limited, "The Military Brass" is a humorous example of the brash, stilted writing: "The military brass/Can kiss my ass." This is the 3rd self-published printing, and it appears that the author is enjoying himself. (D-52)(pj)

THE PLASTIC TOWER #3 ($2.50 from PO Box 702, Bowie, MD 20718): This one has a hit and miss feel to me, perhaps exacerbated by the mix of typestyles used. A few pieces, though, reach out of the pack and grab. Hugh J. Findlay's "Back" runs up and down the page in a fascinating manner, while David Sparenberg's "Lucifer's Nightmare" dives into the subconscious of the human condition. A few zine and chapbook reviews set quietly in the back pages. (D-49t)(MG)

POETRY BREAK JOURNAL ($2 from PO Box 417, Oceanside, CA 92054): A poetry journal, complemented by such gems as "Nothing: A Short Fable" by David Racine. In the fable Hemingway and Picasso discuss artistic messages, minimalism, and empty spaces. As for the poetry, it's a a hodge-podge of works by numerous authors. There appears to be a thread of playful irony in many poems. (HL-16)(pj)

THE POETRY PROJECT 137 (minimum $20 yearly contribution from St Mark's Church in the Bowery, 2nd Ave & 10th St, NY, NY 10003): As I've said before, the folks behind this project appear to have long-established in-roads to the heart of the American poetry establishment. That might turn you off, but you can't deny the good work that appears here. Unlike so many academic zines, this has a more lasting, less artificial feel. Also, there's up-to-the-minute reporting on happenings in the NYC poetry arena. The one thing missing is some quality, radical work—these folks tend to be a bit conservative. (S-24)(pj)

Rene Ricard, **TRUSTY SARCOPHAGUS CO.** ($25 from Inanout Press, Chelsea Hotel, 222 W. 23rd St., NY, NY 10011): The author is also a visual artist, and each of these poems has been written/painted on some material object found by Ricard. Color photo-reproductions of these objects appear on the left pages with the poems on the right pages. The poem "Poison" was written on some flat, puke-green object: "just put/the/idea in/their head. They'll/Starve to Death." Such twists appear thru-out. (D-90t)(pj)

David Robilliard, **BABY LIES TRUTHFULLY** ($15 from Inanout Press, Chelsea Hotel, 222 W. 23rd St., NY, NY 10011): A posthumous publication, the author died of Aids in 1988. These poems, written during the author 's fatal struggle, show a dry humor and a smug defiance. All are short, many mere bursts of irony, as "Spontaneity": "Not just now/I haven't got the time." There are also numerous sketches by the author, all essentially 2-D representations of the human face. (D-148t)(pj)

David Ruddies, **SIMPLE STRUCTURES HOLIDAY READINGS** ($7 from Vanai Publications, PO Box 88152, Tukwila, WA 98138-2152): In general, it's hard to find fault with the ideas in this chapbook; it's just that the words used to weave the ideas into poems leave something to be desired. "Trees" and "Master" are among the better of these short works; these two are short pieces of a longer liberal theme that comments on peace, hope, human interaction, the environment, etc. (D-24)(pj)

Kristopher Saknussemm, **IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER** ($6 from False Frontier Press, Box 2361V, GPO Melbourne 3001, Australia): Despite a cover that will terrify even the stoutest of vegetarians, there's a warmth and caring inside. The author's father is present throughout these poems, the main theme being a simple yet complex love relationship between father and son. What's most remarkable is the author's ability, with so few words, to bring the reader immediately into the scene: the reader becomes the son, and there is Dad. The final poem, "The Return of the Swimmer," is an unforgettable blast from the heart. (D-38)(pj)

Gail Schilke, **FROM THE MARGIN** ($2 (?) from St. Clarks, 163 Ludlow St. #2C, New York, NY 10002): New York City poems that blast all over and sometimes off of the page. "Alarm Central", with its medley of noise and violence and adrenalin, explains perfectly why I don't live in the city. But plenty of others do, and so perhaps the jerky city rhythm of these poems will be to their liking. For me, it's just too strongly negative, even while I recognize the fine ear and writing here. (D-20)(MG)

SCRATCH #2 ($1.25 from 24 Nelson St, The Groves, York Y03 7NJ): A British poetry zine, with some photo-reduced reviews tagged-on to the end. It's mostly novice work, but consistent and seemingly determined. There's a couple of short pieces that were funny, such as Dent's "First Things First" and Wright's "Reef." This latter piece goes "my arms around your neck/your legs around my waist/we are knot in love." (D-40)(pj)

Kevin Seconds, **CORKSCREW EARTH** ($3 & a stamp from Gangbox, 2314 J St. Box 122, Sacramento, CA 95816): Journal entries, random observations, and true-life stories (or at least pretty good ones) from this prolific poet of punk. Kevin is very sketchy in this book, drawing outlines in words and barely filling them in, keenly observing the behavior of the folks he meets. Some cool stuff, some scribbles, it evens out. (D-40)(MG)

Kevin Seconds, **INCH OF THICK** ($2 & a stamp from Gangbox, 2314 J St. Box 122, Sacramento, CA 95816): A collection of Kevin's short works, scribbled down in odd moments and collected with photos. A couple of these get into some of the down side of the new music life—stage dives that end in contact with the floor, rotten teeth, that sort of thing. A mix of contemplation and frustration seems to infuse the book. (D-16)(MG)

Gerry Shikatani, **SELECTED POEMS AND TEXTS 1973-1988** ($5 (?) from Aya Press, Box 1153 Station F, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4Y 2T8): As might be expected, a collection over so many years spans many themes and styles. Though most of this work is written in a contemporary free verse, there's some visual poetry. Mixed emotions on this one. There's talent and cleverness, but then there's this sense that some of the work has a lethal case of literary inbreeding. Sure, there's definitely an audience for this one, but it probably can't be found in the poor, inner city. (D-110t)(pj)

Bucky Sinister, **TWELVE BOWLS OF GLASS** ($2 from Manic D Press, PO Box 410804, San Francisco, CA 94141): Poems of relationships and injustice. Most of the relationships here are pretty dysfunctional, suicide pacts, people who can't hack it together, and people who relate to objects rather than other people. Sinister seems to stare in wonder at this world, an uncomprehending part of it. (D-20t)(MG)

Marjory Smart, **EMPTY SKY GO ON UNENDING** ($3 (?) from Aya Press, Box 1153 Station F, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4Y 2T8): Quiet, easy poetic voice, detailing the world in abstract whispers. Symbols from nature figure into almost all of this work. Each piece begs reflection. For the pensive and patient. (D-64t)(pj)

Spartacus, **SCATTERED POEMS** ($1.50 & 2 stamps from TFYS, PO Box 22551, Memphis, TN 38122-0551): Somewhat self-centered, somewhat bleak poems that concentrate on love, injustice and the sense of rage felt by many folks today. It's the rage that comes through clearest, though the love does continue to surface. Poetry like a tightly-wound spring, waiting to explode in one fashion or another, very much on the edge and without wasted sentiment. (D-28r)(MG)

SPECTACULAR DISEASES #9 (£1.50 from Paul Green, 83(b) London Road, Peterborough, Cambs., PE2 9BS, UK): This poetry zine is entirely a collection of work from one poet, Don David, an American living in Canada. The title is "The Limitations of Soiling", and the poems are frankly sexual and obsessive, a melange of distressing imagery and sudden intakes of breath. They are also complexly structured and will repay some study, in their careful dissection of the human impulses. (D-56t)(MG)

STARLIGHT POETS #1 ($4 from Starlight Press, PO Box 3102, Long Island City, NY 11103): A collection of relatively traditional poetry, including a fair amount of lightly erotic work and a few pieces touching on other bodily functions ("Out of Control", by John Richards, is the best piss-poem I've read in a long time). Maureen Hurley offers and exciting and fun look at the reading of erotic work, while Gina Bergamino probes the psyche of the male animal. (S-32t)

STAR*LINE Mar./Apr. 1990 ($1 from 2012 Pyle Rd., Schenectady, NY 12303): The central watering hole for aficionados and writers of science fiction and other fantastic poetry. This issue has a discussion of the year's Rhysling Awards and an interview with Ree Young as well as the poetry. The featured poet is K.A. Daniels, and most of the work in this issue is more in the vein of horror than SF. (D-20t)

Lamont B. Steptoe, **AMERICAN MORNING/MOURNING** ($3 (?) from Whirlwind Press, PO Box 109, Camden, NJ 08101): Strong political poetry which focuses on racism in America, whether through the bombing of MOVE or the exclusion of minorities from the political process. Steptoe writes in a strong voice that begs to be heard rather than read, enumerating injustices, calling for change, more in pity for the system than hostility. (D-38t)(MG)

Suzanne, **MOTHER OF DARKNESS** ($1 from Dancing Fish Press, 2-381 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6R 2M8, CANADA): Sort of on the borderline between poetry and prose, this is the tale of "the crazy girl", nobody special, and the rise and fall of a love affair. It comes in short glimpses, a bit of graphic language, obsession, questing. Economical. (D-20t)(MG)

TEMM POETRY MAGAZINE #3-4 ($1 from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): A growing zine of poetry that strives for a slice across the field rather than one particular style of writing—though traditional hearts and flowers tuff seems to be pretty well out. #3 has an inserted mini-chapbook from Ed Mycue. #4 has strong work from Stacey Sollfrey and Tomer Inbar, among many, many others. (D-28r)

THIRTEEN Vol. VII #3 ($2.50 from PO Box 392, Portlandville, NY 13834-0392): A poetry zine which eschews the usual spacious presentation in favor of cramming a lot of poems on to the page. Mostly they don't suffer for the crowding, though there are exceptions. This style does make it easier to appreciate, for example, the stylistic constants of a poet like Virginia Hlavsa or Sherman Alexis, as they get their own pages. Mostly fairly traditional work, with a few poets like Will Inman providing a leavening of spice. (S-40)

TIGHT May 1990 ($2.50 from Ann Erickson, PO Box 1591, Guerneville, CA 95446): A zine of mostly short of solid poetry presented without undue frills, so that the writing itself is the only focus. Editor Erickson's own "You Summon Me Up From Anaesthesia" is a great short poem, packing a lot of feeling into eleven lines, while David Ben-Horin's longer and less structured piee "Gazing Out" is a nice journey across some open space. Plenty more to choose from too. (D-28)(MG)

VIOLENT VIRGINS #9 ($1 from Rane Arroyo, PO Box 225, Indiana, PA 15701): This issue of the series spotlights the work of B.Z. Niditch, who gives us a few poems and a play set in Austria just before it fell to the Germans in WWII, and with all the characters talking past one another. Niditch's work tends to be fairly dense, with images playing off of one another in rapid succession; not really to my tastes, but strongly crafted. (S-10)(MG)

Ken Wagner, **MT. MARCY** (75¢ from 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): A linked bunch of short poems about a hike in the Adirondacks. The poet starts off with energy but bogs down quickly, and the style of the poems bogs about the same time. Lightweight for easy backpacking. (M-16)(MG)

WAKING UP IN BETWEEN ($2 from Heather Maring, 7375 Delmar, St Louis, MO 63130): A poetry journal, striving to be a bi-annual publication. Most of this work is novice, some of the best poetry coming from the editor herself. In "The Tide" Maring finishes "I lift your hand/Pull it along the barky stump of a tree/Hoping in this way/You'll know the bruises on our own bodies." A nice market for aspiring poets. (S-20)(pj)

WANKIN' STANKIN' PUNKTURIST CLODS #1 ($2 from Bob Z. c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300,, New York, NY 10010): A collection of punk poetry laid out, as with most all of Bob's productions, over a collage of industrial and cultural images. Censorship, repression, death, sickness...these are not very happy campers. The world is breaking down and the poets here know it. (M-32r)(MG)

Paul Weinman, **BROCCOLI SEEN AS CURE 4 RACISM** (On request from 79 Cottage Ave., Albany, NY 12203): More poetry from Paul, in a rather more serious mode than some of his familiar White Boy (though the Boy does have a few walk-on appearances here). Weinman ties together racism, drugs, sex and the White House into one linked indictment of the way things are, and explores some of the connections between the "War on Drugs" and the usually-unspoken war on minorities. (D-20)(MG)

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT #8 ($3 from Blaustein, 89 E. 3rd St. #5C, New York, NY 10003): A no-frills selection of poetry plus a few short stories and even a chain letter. Lorraine Schein has some arch comments on counterculture conformity in her "Basic Black", while Judi Miller's untitled poem in progress seems to be vibrating with dangerous energy. Les Bridges and Alan Blaustein are among the other poets here contributing interesting work. (S-35)(MG)

Richard Wilmarth, **PALESTINE** ($2 from Dead Metaphor Press, 2553 Kingston Rd., Kingston, RI 02881): A collection of unpretentious work done during a visit to Israel. In quick snatches—an arab waiter, hotel service, Zionist graffiti, an explosion that didn't happen, tanning—Wilmarth tries to capture some of the spirit of what's going on over there. The Israelis and the Americans don't look real good when the book is over. (D-20t)(MG)

A.D. Winans, **IN MEMORIAM** ($3 from Alpha Beat Press, 5110 rue Adam, Montreal, Que., H1V 1W8, CANADA): A series of poetic tributes to poets no longer alive, mainly from the Beat orbit. D.A. Levy, Bob Kaufman, Neal Cassady, Todd Lawson and Kenneth Patchen are among those Winans remembers. And they are more remembrance than mourning, explorations of life rather than death. Gentle and loving. (D-18t)(MG)

POETRY NOTES

•**SUBMIT** (EYSU, PO Box 1988, San Francisco, CA 94101) is a new poetry publication seeking original works. Their promo flyer shows Betty Page in bondage. That's all I know.

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Ken Wagner
511 W. Sullivan
Olean, NY 14760

ADVENTURES OF A BOY NAMES GNAT (1 stamp from Liberation Press, 2005 Palo Verde Ave. #230, Long Beach, CA 90815): A scribbly minicomic with a post-stick figure drawing style and a simple anti-drug message. Aimed at folks in the new music scene, and not especially subtle. (M-8)

ADVENTURES OF A DEAD TEENAGER #1-3 (50¢ & a stamp from A.C. Rempt, 260 E. Monroe St., Pomona, CA 91767): The start of a miniseries tracking the adventures of a dude named Jesus in some unspecified future time. He dies pretty early on, but that's OK, because he's put back to undertake a ticklish mission. In #3 he tries to scare the VP to death, with poor results. Pretty warped stuff. (D-12)

☐ALL COVER COMICS #4 (25¢ & a stamp from HSC, 4841 Birch, Gilbert, MN 55741): A selection of minicomic covers which have about one gag each and so don't warrant doing full books for. There's Midnight Commando blowing away a punk who shoplifted a candy bar, Steffi preparing her makeup to fight crime, and "Funny Animal Epidermal Disease Comics", among others. (M-8)

☐ALTER EGO XEROX-LETTER #1 ("Trade for minis, etc." from Tommy Hojager Olesen, Marius Holst Gade 6, 4th, DK-8700 Horsens, DENMARK): A single-page strip based on ten words chosen at random from books and magazines, this time including "crowbar" and "obsession". Olesen turns this into sort of a strip noir, a minimalist detective story that is promised to continue in future issues. (A4-1)

☐THE AMAZING ARNIE #1 (35¢ from Arnie Comix, T. Ferranti, 8334 Amigo Ave. #14, Northridge, CA 91324): Reprinted strips from 1988, put into a mini for wider distribution. Arnie is a big-nosed abstract creature who inhabits a world of talking beans, angry vowels, and snoods. Confusing and amateurish but sort of charming. (M-8)

☐AMOEBA MAN #2-3 (25¢ & a stamp from Rocco Comics, 2427 S. 58th Ct., Cicero, IL 60650): Amoeba Man is a human-sized amoeba who romps through this comic along with some other expanded one-cell critters. The plot is fragmentary at best, with random senseless violence and the demise of the hero to close out #3. (M-8)

☐ANCIENT SUMERIAN COMICS (50¢ from Richard Gatten, PO Box 10696, Minneapolis, MN 55458-3696): A minicomic which, yes, does have a vaguely Sumerian look about its clean and strong art. It's an old joke involving chickens, but before it's done both Gilgamesh and Enkidu get involved, and the final punch line is rather unexpected. (M-8)

ANOTHER LEG WITHOUT A BRAIN (35¢ from Arnie Comix, T. Ferranti, 8334 Amigo Ave. #14, Northridge, CA 91324): More adventures of the disembodied brain and several disembodied legs. This episode makes it quite clear that the brain does not move around without help—on the other hand, it does have teeth and pretensions of laying eggs. Very strange. (M-8)

☐ARCANE #3 ($1.25 from Mark Laliberte, 2791 Jos St Louis, Windsor, ONT, N8T 2M7, CANADA): A comics zine which also features short and morbid stories. The comics themselves are pretty short and morbid too, with death and super-anti-heroes seeming to predominate. Most of the artists are working in a sort of gritty detailed cityscape style. (S-16t)

☐THE ARCANS #1 ($1 from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): A re-release of a high school comic that is firmly in the tradition of major superhero releases. The art is competent enough by zine standards, the plot a confusing fantastic mishmash. Nothing here reached out and grabbed me in the first issue. (D-24)

ART IN SHAMBLES #1 ($3.35 *CASH* from Max Hopper, 8151 Washington Hwy Box A108, Richmond, VA 23227): A wild comedic parody of the art world. It centers around the new piece "Used Band-Aid In Space", following the work and its creator through a series of fast-paced changes. Pretty silly, actually. But who knows, maybe there is something to their poking art in the eye with a sharp stick. (S-32)

☐BAZOOKA JOE #1 ($2 from H. de Aguirre #2357 Providencia, Santiago, CHILE): A collection of comics in a somewhat gory, somewhat high-tech fantasy format—**HEAVY METAL** on newsprint. A few of the strips make sense even without knowing the language, and they don't have very happy endings. But any small press at all from Chile is a novelty in this country and this is worth supporting. (HL-32)

BOILED ANGEL #4 ($2 from Michael Diana, 519 Cleaveland Ave. SW, Largo, FL 34640): Mike is still maintaining his position as purveyor of disgusting comics, with plenty of infant mutilation, blood, gore, sex and guts here. This time he adds a rather sadistic written fantasy by R. J. Moore to the mix, making this into something like a stroke book for the demented. (D-64t)

☐"BOB'S" FAVORITE COMICS #1 ($2.50 & Age Statement from Rip Off Press, PO Box 4686, Auburn, CA 95604): The new SubGenial, slick-cover, mass-market comic book. The contents, though, are as esoteric and in-jokish as ever, and will make sense only to Church aficionadoes...or the *truly disturbed*. Either way, lots of people will get off on the snideness, preaching, and nonsense here. (S-32)

☐BUONO FANZINA (50¢ from Matt Feazell, 3867 Bristow, Detroit, MI 48212): Draw left-handed by Matt, Terry Laban, Jay Lynch and Carole Sobocinsky, this minicomic seems to be mainly a slam at poorly-done, derivative minicomics that rip off the styles of leaders in the field. I recognize some of their targets, or at least the general class of targets, but feel like I missed some in-jokes. (M-8)

BUTT BISCUIT #3 (75¢ from Dean Williams, 555 E. William #9F, Ann Arbor, MI 48104): The plot here is still developing but not necessarily getting any less perplexing. The retarded kid is picked up by a couple of sleazes after being abandoned by his parents, while the kid who works in the animal shelter is busy threatening the cats. A disturbing minicomic. (M-12)

CAFFEINE ADDICTION #3 ($1.45 from Scott Williams, 1326 Curtis Ave., Pt. Pleasant, NJ 08742): The story of Eugene Caffeine is getting progressively out of hand, with him consuming hundreds of pots of coffee and mountains of raw and roasted beans. For the hardcore coffee fanatic only, or those who like bizarre and well-drawn comics. (D-20)

CALIBER PRESENTS Vol. 1 #5 ($1.95 from Caliber Press, 31162 W. Warren, Westland, MI 48185): A comics anthology put together quite well and with a taste for the bizarre. Stories range from

DO YOU HAVE INFINITE BISCUIT SALVATION? (SASE from Arglebargle, PO Box 30116, St. Louis, MO 63119): This is a new recruiting tract for the Nuclear Platypus Church of Arglebargle, explaining about the 24-dimensional God-Biscuit, the Platypus himself, and the necessity of flexing your spleen, among other things. Try it out to see the latest strange religious joke to come down the pike. (L-2t)

Stephanie du Plessis, **THE SNOPSES GO CAMPING #3** ($1 from PO Box 4697, San Francisco, CA 94101): Continuing fiction about the white-trash family of the Snopses. In this chapter there is further exploration of the possibility that Elvis might have been Granny's secret lover, speculation eagerly pushed by the tabloid reporter. The Christmas season also comes around, with its share of good cheer. (D-28)

EBENEZER SQUEEZER - REACHING PEOPLE FOR TINA CHOPP (Donation from Osiris Ranebo, PO Box 1914, Bellingham, WA 98227-1914): A small recruiting pamphlet for the Church of Tina Chopp, a religion with tenets that are strange, to say the least. It explains their plans to recruit and change college campuses all over the country, and closes with the expected plea for money (though some unexpected perqs are offered). (S-2t)

THE FACTION FILE ($5 from A Distribution, 396 Seventh St. #2, Jersey City, NJ 07302): A reprinted series of anarchist comics from the British periodical **BLACK FLAG** that appeared in 1984 and '85—and so are full of references to British politics of that period (not that anything has changed in five years). Artist Pete Mastin takes an irreverent bomb-throwing attitude towards the Establishment and its lackies, and doe artwork so detailed it borders on cluttered. Rabble-rousing fun. (A4-32)

FILMCLIPS 1990 MOVIE MEMORABILIA DIRECTORY ($3.50 from PO Box 1335, New York, NY 10013): A listing of some 50 companies that sell movie memorabilia of some sort. They range from the International Mae West Society to My Best Friends, a company that sells licensed Disney merchandise. Each listing gives the address, a company profile, and notes on how to order from them. (D-28t)

Nib Geebles, **FRIEND** ($4 *CASH* from 601 W. 160th St. #6D, New York, NY 10032): A collection of pre-written letters for every occasion; all you need to do is sign your name and add the salutation. Every occasion, that is, providing that you are a sexually-crazed psychopath who enjoys confusing people with letters that run from straight insults to invitations to enemas to the ravings of the superior lunatic. Includes collages on the back of each one. (S-16)

GG ALLIN SCRAPBOOK ($10 from Merle Allin, 28 Quint Ave. #58, Allston, MA 02134): A collection of original drawings by GG, bits of his prison writing, and newspaper clippings related to the charges that now have him behind bars. Some is fascinating, some is merely gross. The proceeds of this are going to benefit GG while he's in prison, which may be for the next 3 or 4 years. (S-40)

Roxy Gordon, **SMALLER CIRCLES** ($3.50 from Wowapi, 5746 Oram, Dallas, TX 75206): This is an odd item, on the verge of several genres at once. Gordon is a poet with an LP to his credit, and this booklet is in the form of a letter to a friend describing the pieces on the album and some of the process of recording them. But it's also a description of life and dreams, and moves from letter to poetry itself at times. A slice of life, and some insight into a creative process. (D-40r)

HATE-HUNDRED (50¢ from R. Dean F., 813 N. Garfield #4, Santa Ana, CA 92701): The 800 number game—calling companies on their own phone bill to destroy the world—has surfaced again in this collection of numbers to call. Dean is apparently opposed to everything; I was amused to see him ragging on the LaserJet printer in a photocopied zine—same technology, guess it's ok for *him* to use. Anyhow, there are also the usual cast of creeps from car companies to evangelists here to amuse your dialling finger. (D-16)

IVIN: A MAN AND HIS WAFER ($1 from Graham Trievel, Box 481, Rt. 113, Lionville, PA 19353): A small booklet recounting the story of Ivins' Spiced Wafers (a sort of cookie)—or at least the story as Graham understands it, which involves pacts with the devil, surf hits, and other unlikely souvenirs and promotional items. A strange sideways look at consumerism and cookies. (M-8)

JOKE IS A LIFE ($1 (?) from Pariah Press, PO Box 9056, Chico, CA 95927): A collection of one-liners and puns which appear to be all original; at least, they don't look familiar to me. A representative example: "After the confused man blew his brains out, how did his wife help him? She collected his wits." A few of these might offend the sensitive, but most are pretty innocuous. (D-16)

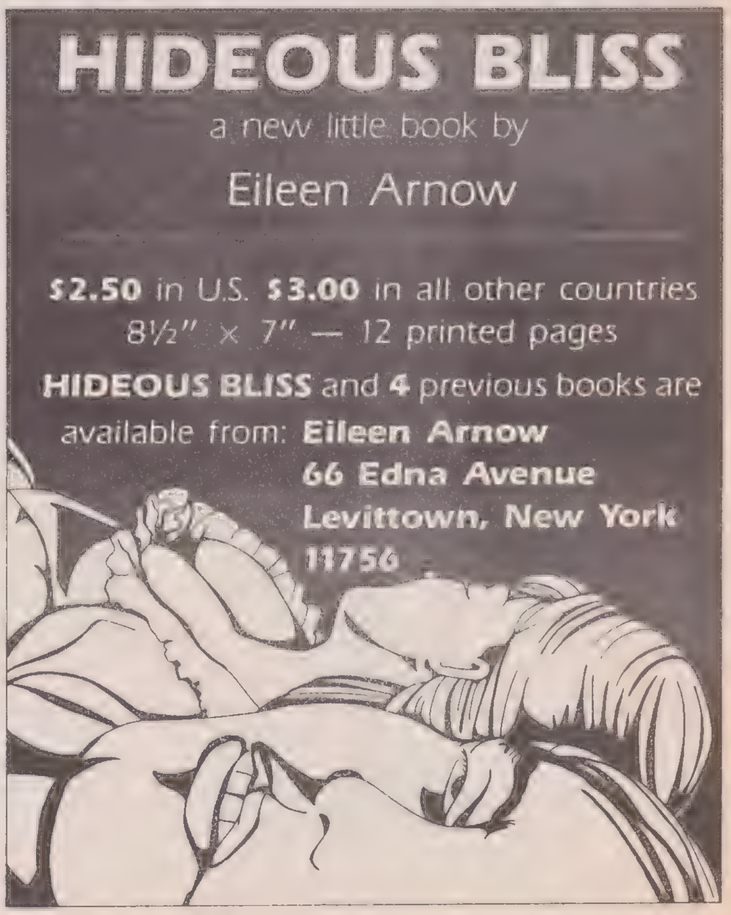
Jennifer Joseph, **DRUGS** ($2 from Manic D Press, PO Box 410804, San Francisco, CA 94141): A collection of short stories and incidents from the drug culture. There's paranoia and burnout here as well as some good times and partying. People whose lives revolve around blotter paper and white powders make for interesting objects of study, but a quality of obsession comes across here that makes the less attractive as friends. (D-20t)

Crad Kilodney, **JUNIOR BRAIN TUMORS IN ACTION** ($4.60 from PO Box 281, Stn. S, Toronto, ONT, M5M 4L7, CANADA): A collection of satirical short stories from Crad, who continues to ignore most literary conventions in the quest of a good story. His "The Great Vomito" is an exploration of fame which seems at times almost serious, while "Hare Krishna Weekend", an account of a vacation with True Believers, is hilarious. Crad is a Canadian national treasure even if they don't know it. (HL-56)

John Kurluk, **SPIRIT OF THE TAROT** ($2.50 from PO Box 6186, Baltimore, MD 21231): Another booklet on reading the Tarot cards. John admits that there are already enough manuals to teach you how to interpret a Tarot layout by looking at the cards. He's more concerned with a sort of meditative Tarot, which proceeds at an organic pace and includes consideration and sensing of the cards before they are visible. (S-11)

Robert Feldmore Lewis, **LIFE & CRIMES OF BEAUTIFUL BOBBY** ($3 from Media Queen, 8825 Roswell Rd. #474, Atlanta, GA 30350): Lewis is doing time on death row in Florida, but this is not strictly prison writing. Rather, it's brief looks back at an adventurous life, starting with a 40-mile bike ride at the age of six, going through being taken in New York, to some somber thoughts on helping other kids avoid his path. He's a good writer, and has interesting stories to tell. (S-8t)

LINES ($1 from Wendy S. Duke, PO Box 80083, Akron, OH 44308): A collaborative booklet consisting of drawings by Wendy and poetry by Jonathan Levant. Both are working in fractured abstract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8½" × 7" — 12 printed pages
HIDEOUS BLISS and **4** previous books are
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11756

forms, with snatches of meaning bubbling to the surface only to shift otherwise. Very angular in both visuals and poetry. (D-24)

LOVE AND LEVITATION (On Request from Verlag Golem, PO Box 3414, Providence, RI 02906): An esoteric Jewish analysis of the roots of Christianity, The author sees the Jew-hating institutionalized in the Church as something of a Roman cover story, instigated by the power brokers of the time. Clues exist to support different interpretations, and they're laid out here, along with some ecstatic Christ-poetry. (D-18t)

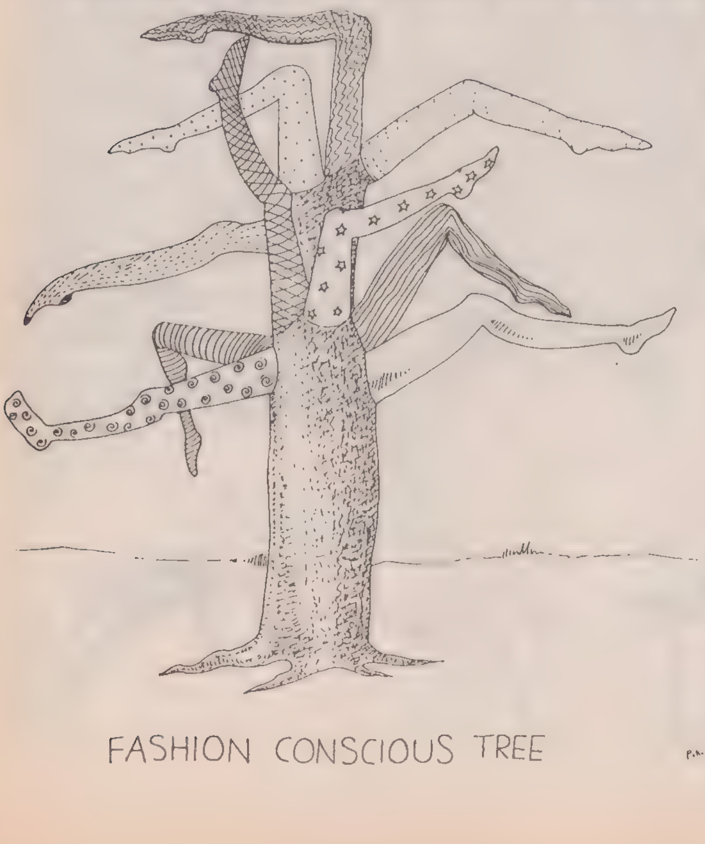
MADALYN THE BIGOT (SASE from Fred Woodworth,, PO Box 3488, Tucson, AZ 85722): The latest in a series of minipamphlets that Fred is publishing with an alternative view of the head honcho of American Atheists, Madalyn Murray O'Hair. In this one he documents some of her amazingly prejudiced statements about blacks, Jews, gays, foreigners, and those who were killed in concentration camps. (M-6t)

MARK PAWSON ($2.50 *CASH* from PO Box 664, London, E5 0JW, UK): This is both the creator and the title of this work—actually the title is transliterated into Cyrillic, but if we wait for me to dig up a Cyrillic font this issue will never come out. It consists of multiple colored artistic/mail art images photocopied at random on to billboard paper, producing a dense and varied if somewhat random experience. The depth of image here, both visually and conceptually, is quite remarkable. (A6-24)

Rev. J.M. Martin, **WHAT IS A GNOSTIC?** ($5 from American Gnostic Church, PO Box 1219, Corpus Christi, TX 78403-1219): An introduction to both historical gnosticism and one of the places where it is still upheld today. Much of this is -presented in Q&A format, leading the reader to some basic understanding of the structure of the universe and of *gnosis*. There is also some material on the connections of the AGC to other brands of unorthodox thought from Caballah to Crowley. (D-32)

MEAT—DESTROYING THE PLANET WITH A KNIFE AND FORK ($1 (?) from North American Vegetarian Society, PO Box 72, Dolgeville, NY 13329): This pamphlet makes the argument for vegetarianism not on the usual personal grounds but on social ones. It looks at some of the atmospheric changes going on, from the release of greenhouse gases to the destruction of the ozone layer, and shows how meat production directly contributes to these changes. Stop eating meat and plant trees, is their suggestion as to the most important things you can do for the planet. (D-8t)

NORTHWEST TINA CENTER (Donation from Osiris Ranebo, PO Box 1914, Bellingham, WA 98227-1914): A description of some of the services found at this "Regional Whorehouse" of the Tinites.It includes a bit of basic theology as well as a schedule of services. (S-2t)



FASHION CONSCIOUS TREE

John Ohliger, **ADULT EDUCATORS' SING-A-LONG BIBLIOGRAPHY** ($5 fro Basic Choices, 730 W. Jefferson #1, Springfield, IL 62702): A bibliography of songs with some connection to adult education, from hymns to rap. There's nearly a thousand titles here, including Cole Porter, Bruce Springsteen, and many more. For an extra three bucks you can also get the detailed 20-page index to this bibliography. (S-50)

Peter Petrisko, Jr., **LAUGHING GASOLINE BLUES** ($1.50 from FRANK Publications, PO Box 56942, Phoenix, AZ 85079): A chapbook of short text pieces, mostly pretty depressing, about people trying to get by in modern America. There's a clown who gets busted shooting heroin, a young man joining the white supremecist armies, and a deflated inflatable love doll, among other sorry images here. Also include an anti-environmentalist rant and some collage. (M-24t)

THE PLAGIARIST CODEX and **REPLAGIARIZE** (Respectively $1 & 75¢ from Plaster Ramp Press, PO Box 1083, Wheaton, IL 60189): A pair of reprinted pamphlets from the Plagiarist wing of the modern arts, with (of course) evidence of original authorship removed. The first is in turn plagiarized in part from Mayan codexes, while the second is a collection of Xerox test patterns. (D-48/D-24)

Dee Rail, **AUTONOMYSTICS: AN ESSAY ON ANARCHISM AND MYSTICISM** (2 25¢ stamps from 4823 Baltimore Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143): A polemic against modern society, based on a historical analysis that says we've lost touch with the world. The author argues for a combined anarchism and mysticism, changing self and society at once, and sees neither as sufficient alone. The intellectual analysis and the emotional message don't always seem to mesh, but it's an interesting concept. (D-20r)

RELATIVE VALUES ($_{0}1^{00}$ from The Justice Advocate, PO Box 3125, Denver, CO 80201): A simple explanation of inflation with some graphic examples of the decline in purchasing power of our money since the Federal Reserve took over. By looking at changes in the per capita money supply, they calculate that one hundred Federal Reserve Notes is worth just about 50¢ in real money. For $_{0}2^{00}$ you can get their "What is Federal Reserve Doing to Our Money?" which explains this in more detail. (D-2)

Marcel Ruijters, **THE MARCH OF PROGRESS** ($2 from P. Jacobsstr. 6, 6133 Am Sittard, NETHERLANDS): A collection of drawings of distorted skulls, bizarre mutants, and deranged-looking punks. Any one o these would be right at home on the deepest reaches of the NY subway system. Includes a bit of work in color. (M-32)

Marcel Ruijters, **PEGLEG** ($2 from P. Jacobsstr. 6, 6133 Am Sittard, NETHERLANDS): Bizarre and occasionally slightly-obscene drawings in a horizontally-extended format which reminds me of the classic **WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE.** Marcel has a distinctively berserk style which, if he ever makes it big, people will be on the lookout for. (D-16)

Dr. Maxwell Selander, **THE SECRET BOOK OF JUDAS OF KERIOTH (THE GOSPEL OF JUDAS)** ($10 from American Gnostic Church, PO Box 1219, Corpus Christi, TX 78403-1219): A translation from the Coptic of a gospel purporting to have been written by Judas Iscariot himself, and revealing some of the Gnostic truths behind the career of Jesus Christ. It comes with notes on the provenance and translation of the manuscript, and an afterword of notes on the text and theology therein. May well be an elaborate hoax, but I don't have the background to pronounce on this. (D-40)

Norman Shapiro, **EUPHEMISMS** (SASE for info to Norman Shapiro, PO Box 101, Brightwaters, NY 11718): That's the generic title for Norman's series of fine-art erotic chapbooks. He combines serigraphed prints, computer-drawn graphics (including homoerotic ones) and fantastic, science fictional writing to give visions of future sex and present excitement. The individual artist's books are being produced in limited editions; you can sign on for $65 for 4 mailings of signed limited editions.

Harvarston Smith, **WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD (AND HOW TO GET EVEN)** ($7 from Clifton Associates, 349 E. Cooke Rd., Columbus, OH 43214-2801): A selection of diatribe s on a variety of subjects, from the war between the sexes to getting revenge on people and organizations. Smith is by turns witty, sarcastic, misogynist, racist, disgusting, clever, iconoclastic and just plain crotchety. If you don't find something here to be outraged by you're probably dead. (D-52r)

Gerald Sprouse, Various Titles (50¢ & SASE each from Sunshine Publications, PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363): Sprouse is still cranking out his articles and pamphlets. **ADAM WEISHAUPT, THE BAVARIAN ILLUMINATI, THE JACOBIN CLUBS, THE LEAGUE OF THE JUST, AND FREEMASONRY** is a short summary of modern conspiracy theory based on a single source, a book from Magnum Publishing. **AMERICA: FOUNDED AND RULED BY FREEMASONS** lists various Masonic ties from the Declaration of independence forward. **POWER RESTS WITH THE PEOPLE (NOT WITH POLITICIANS AND POWERBROKERS)** is an argument for jury nullification. Gerald also sells a variety of photocopied articles from other sources on conspiratorial and conservative topics. Of late he's been offering more ridiculous and disturbing things, like Eustace Mullins' **JEWS AND RITUAL MURDER** and the AIDS hysteria of **WHO MURDERED AFRICA?** as well as various Ben Klassen racist tracts. (S-2 to S-4)

Chuck Taylor, **HOW TO GET YOURSELF FREE** ($4 from Fat Tuesday Publications, 8125 Jonestown Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17112): A simple manual on how to get a bit freer in this crazy world. Chuck suggests that freedom may be something that you have to abandon the herd to get, whether through living in the woods, immersing yourself in alternative culture, or whatever. Throughout he gives examples of people who have dared to take the plunge of breaking with conventional life, and uses his own experiences to demonstrate that freedom is still available for those brave enough to grab for it. Underground inspiration. (HS-44t)

THREE TRIPS THROUGH SPACE AND TIME ($2 from Running Dinosaur Press, 353 Oxford St., Chula Vista, CA 92011): Three short stories inspired by a single computer graphic. I'm afraid that the first two of these struck me as horribly cliched and hackneyed. Michael Brownstein's "Stone Walls", selected as the third place winner, does a bit better; at least the writing flows even though there's more incident than plot to this story. (D-20)

WAGE PEACE (50¢ from COMD, PO Box 15195, San Diego, CA 92115): A production of the Youth Activism Task Force of the Committee Opposed to Militarism and the Draft, this is aimed at high school students. It discusses some of the basics of war, peace, activism and the draft, and urges students to think and get active. (HL-4t)

Ken Wagner, **APATHETICAL CONFORMITY** (75¢ from 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): An essay on the problems one encounters when asking people to think for themselves rather than party the fashionable line. While I happen to disagree with some of the statements that Ken offers as being non-discussable in activist groups these days, I think he's got some useful things to say about groupthink. (D-7r)

Ken Wagner, **WILDING** ($1 from 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): A short and violent story about a rather pathetic character meeting a small gang of predatory kids. There may be a moral buried in here, or at least you could read it that way if you wanted something besides senseless violence. (D-12r)

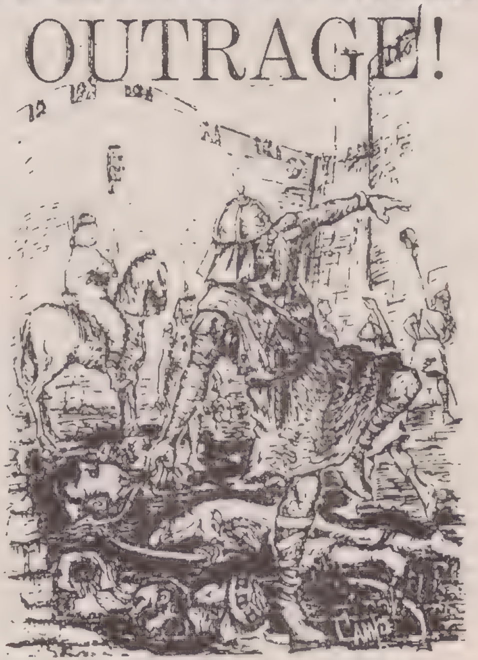
WAKELEY'S REALISMS: LIVE AT A KLU KLUX KLAN RALLY ($1.25 from Joseph Wakeley, 9 Oregon Ave., Palmyra, NJ 08065): A rather sympathetic account of a local Klan rally. Joseph finds himself agreeing with some of their basic positions and wondering why the Nation of Islam gets away with not having their rallies harassed. (S-4)

Melissa White, **WOMAN'S BODY HIDES SECRET-TELLING SPY** ($1 from 1214 Lujan, Santa Fe, NM 87501): A nice-looking collection of short prose revolving around Melissa's experiences with trains and subways in Japan. She discusses the order and respect for privacy of the Japanese culture, and makes some observations about how she doesn't quite fit in. Includes original photos, a stamp with her name in characters, and some calligraphed pages. (HS-12)

WILD CANADIAN NATURE ($2 (?) from Maga, PO Box 6704, Sta. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1X5, CANADA): A chapbook of photos together with rough-hewn text for the tourist. The photos are watercolored and feature dead fish, parking garages, and other signs of the city, while the text seems to be translated from some otherworldly language. Weird. (M-20)

PAMPHLET NOTE

•**Ann LeRoy** has written an excellent essay on learning that people in prison are actually people. It may turn up in **FF** eventually, but for now, you can get a copy by sending an SASE to her at PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843.



OUTRAGE! - Legal thievery by the courts in Minnesota. $3 postpaid from DE YOUNG PRESS, P.O. Box 7252 Spencer, IOWA 51301-7252.

Video
Reviews

As always, video reviews are by Belka Stamas (BS) or the Æditor (MG). Videos for review are accepted in VHS format only. They may be sent to the FF address or directly to Belka (address on page 13).

★★★★★

APOCALYPSE POOH (C$24.95 from Home Format Video, T. Graham, 105 McCaul St. #506, Toronto, ONT, M5T 2X4, CANADA): A video which almost certainly violates copyright laws in several countries, since it's a recombinant version of **APOCALYPSE NOW** and **WINNIE THE POOH**, happily stealing images and soundtracks from both and mixing them together. This has the effect of puncturing some of the pretensions of both movies, and making the viewer more aware of media manipulation. There are also several shorter features on this 10-minute tape, notably the Archies singing the Sex Pistols' version of "God Save the Queen". Culture run amok. (MG)

★★★★★

BEST OF BERLIN INDEPENDENCE DAYS '88 ($19.95 (plus shipping?) from Video Music Inc., PO Box 1128, Norristown, PA 19404): Produced in West Berlin by Studio K7, this is a 40 minute hi-fi stereo concert video from one of the more famous indie music festivals in recent years. Mostly it's concert footage, though processing is done to make a few of the selections artier. Standout tracks include "Mad Minute" by Killer Bees (check out their ROIR audio tape of this performance also), Blind Idiot God's ferocious "Dark and Bright" and the light-hearted redneck punk of Live in a Blender, who lead off the tape with "Guns". Other tracks from from Pig, Overlords, Kastrierte Philosophen, Buzzcocks, Mudhoney and Young Gods. A great set of performances of funky feisty topnotch indie music. (MG)

★★★★★

BOSTON: THE MOVIE ($12.95 from 231 Kennedy Dr., Box 130, Malden, MA 02148): A montage of video and still photos from all around Boston. Being an ex-Bostonian myself, I recognize perhaps 95% of the sights here: the dinosaur at the science museum, South Station, Quincy Market, the colleges, the Statehouse, Boston Commons, Filene's...and many more. But the movie is somewhat perplexing, for instead of a narrative, it is accompanied only by music, from classical to lounge lizard. Thus the casual tourist or non-native will have no idea what most of this stuff is or where to find it. If the purpose is to give an impression of the city, it's only half successful, as the crowds and traffic and noise and grime are largely missing. Perhaps best considered as a memory jogger for ex-Bostonians more nostalgic about the city than I. (MG)

★★★★★

COLORTUNE ($16.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave. Dept 1001, Sunnyvale, CA 94086): This is a tape with a simple idea: it teaches you how to properly set the color on your color TV. Now, this might seem a bit paradoxical; they can hardly put up a test pattern and tell you what it's supposed to look like on your out-of-tune TV. Fortunately, they include a standard printed color bar chart with the video to get around this problem. Also has some advice on setting your VCR for best performance. (MG)

★★★★★

DEATH SCENES ($43.95 from Wavelength Video, PO Box 1290, PO Box 1290, Burbank, CA 91507): The box and PR for this tape caution you that the material within is "extremely graphic"—and they're not kidding. "Grisly" might be a better word. Narrated by well-known Satanist and former police photographer Dr. Anton Szandor Lavey, this one is mainly made up of still photos from crime scenes and the coroner's office in Los Angeles during the 1930's and 1940's. Hundreds of bodies dispatched by every conceivable method appear, from shotgun suicides through axe murders to hangings and decapitations. Among the most graphic images are the original Black Dahlia photos (without the covering over the body parts airbrushed in for national release) and the brutal cases of child molestation (which are thoughtfully put towards the end, so the weak of stomach will never get to them). These images are brutal, disgusting, and depressing, but ultimately fascinating. But if you think there's the least chance that you can't handle them, you're probably right. (MG)

★★★★★

DOGGIE ADVENTURE ($17.95 from Made-For-Dog Videos, 2325 Girard Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55405' order line 800-359-8750): Whatever you may think about some of the things that have appeared in these pages, this is the first film I've seen that was made specifically for dogs. Filmed from a dog's-eye point of view and supplied with a soundtrack liberally laced with barking and other animal noises, it's designed to keep your dog amused for half an hour or so while you go play with your cat. They'll get to hang their head out the car window, chase ducks and pigs and cats, visit a pet store and a zoo, and even have a brief romantic encounter at the vet's office. I have to report, though, that my own two canines were tough critics, losing interest during a few sequences. Still, I know their owner is going to have fun inflicting this on unsuspecting house guests for a long time to come. (MG)

★★★★★

Jonathan Horowitz, three short videos (95 Pitt St. #9, New York, NY 10002): A trio of rather experimental short films, arranged roughly in order of accessibility. **MAKING PHAROAH'S RED FLAG VIDEO** goes behind the scenes at a music video shoot, looking at the tedium that goes into one of those slick bits of film. Plenty of dead time here, eternal shots of legs waiting, and only a bit of music. It aptly captures the boredom of the process, but in so doing becomes a bit tedious itself. **HEADSHOT** is focused on a head, of a young man blowing bubbles with bubble gum. After a while some special effects processing is done of the bubbles. **MAXELL** focuses on that single word, in white block letters on a black background, gradually breaking it up into static. Again, I found it excruciating to sit through the entire 6 1/2 minutes of this, but then, I'm used to being hyperactive. (MG)

★★★★★

JAPANESE CARTOONS ($10 surface/$15 air mail from Mykel Board, 301 Hoyconfolt Sobudai, 3-4774-153 Sobudai, Zama-shi, Kanagawa 228, JAPAN): Your choice of two features out of these three: "Pink Curtain", intended for adults, or "Cinderella Express" or "Snotnose" (aimed at adolescents). As these are entirely in Japanese (no dubbing) the plot can be tough to follow, but how many variations on boy-meets-girl are there? Also note that although these are porno by our standards—i.e., sex is depicted—the standards are different. Nudity is OK, genitalia is out, so the few crotch shots in "Pink Curtain" are as smooth as a Barbie doll's. On the other hand, they can (and do) show people screwing, rape, blood on the sheets, and fantasy sequences ranging from a train speeding through outer space accompanied by fireworks to something like a glowing nightstick getting a blow job. (MG)

★★★★★

JAPANESE TV COMMERCIALS ($10 surface/$15 air mail from Mykel Board, 301 Hoyconfolt Sobudai, 3-4774-153 Sobudai, Zama-shi, Kanagawa 228, JAPAN): Just what the title says, half an hour of commercials recorded from Japanese television. The editing here is not the cleanest job I've ever seen, but the contents are amusing enough that it doesn't really matter. Lots of beer and cigarette ads, Caucasian women when a sexy look is called for and traditional Japanese women otherwise, golf equipment, 1950's merchandising (follow the bouncing phone number). English words, from "Pepsi" to "Fake" are sprinkled throughout, and some familiar products in most unfamiliar settings add to the fun. Culture shock in a tape cassette. (MG)

★★★★★

NEWS NIGHTMARES ($12.95 from New Age Marketing, 988 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102): Here's one for the ghouls. It's a collection of uncensored news clips, large chunks of tape from which only small bits ever made the broadcast news. It opens with a complete tape of Bud Dwyer's famous last press conference, in which he blew his brains out on camera. The rest of the tape—perhaps 45 minutes in all—is mainly automobile crashes, though there's also a downed light plane, a drowned young child, and the corpse of a drug dealer being fished from San Francisco Bay. After a while numbness sets in and it becomes rather tedious, not helped much by the poetic narration harping on the good that viewing this film will do—chiefly in encouraging people to drive more safely (and not embezzle when they're state treasurers?); a line familiar to those who remember such high school greats as **MECHANIZED DEATH**. Eerie instrumental music provides a downbeat soundtrack. (MG)

★★★★★

OUCH! ($11.95 from Film Threat, PO Box 3170, Los Angeles, CA 90078-3170): Underground film critic Christian Gore has put his own work on the line now by releasing this 25-minute feature. It's the story of Scott, a thirty year old loser who discovers himself by participating in a medical experiment designed to make it impossible for him to feel pain. Naturally, this provides the excuse for a number of gory effects, from shredding his own fingers on a cheese grater in an absent-minded moment to getting stomped by a bunch of angry young women at a tough club. The camera work and direction is excellent, far above the quality of most no-budget flicks I get, and the gore effects are reasonably well done. The sound, however, leaves a lot to be desired, unless you believe that horror films are supposed to have their dialogue unsynched with the actors' lips. But on the whole, this is a lighthearted not-too-splattery film worth a look. (MG)

★★★★★

RABID COP ($15 from Ken Rasak, 473-A 14th St., San Francisco, CA 94103): A well done black comedy and about as high a quality as you're going to get for an access short. Although time code wasn;t used i the production, dubbed dialogue almost synced is promoted as the American version of a Finnish production, which is a great selling point in itself. For no budget it's a great job. Running time: 24 minutes. (BS)

★★★★★

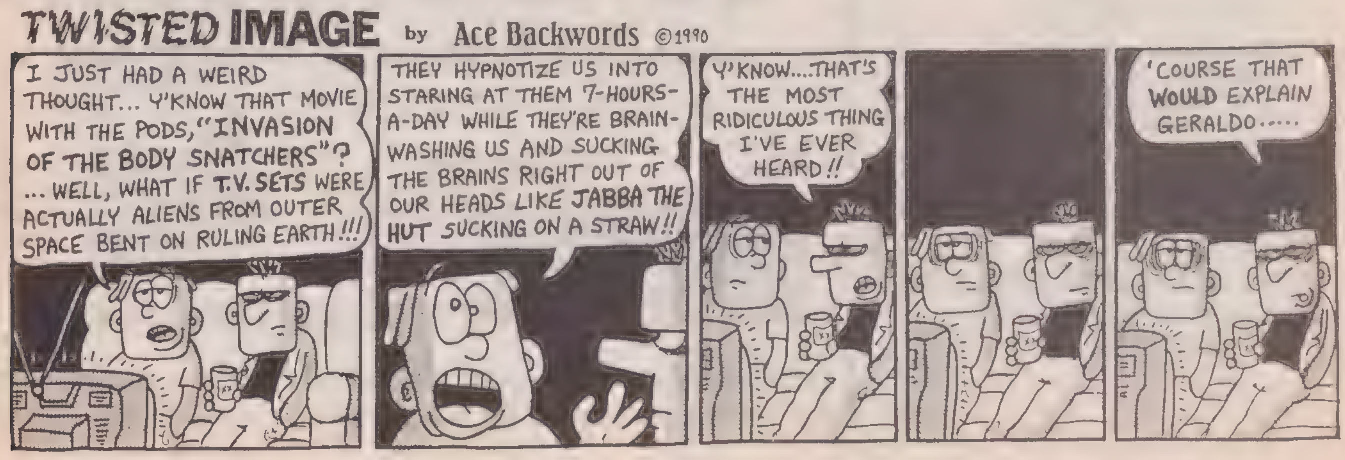
RAMPAGING WOMEN ($25.98 from Michael Flores, PO Box 14683, Chicago, IL 60614-0683): First, the bad news: the "rampaging women" come across more as girls playing dress-up than real ballbreakers on this video; if they were trying for camp, they missed. But that doesn't matter much, because the range of material here will appeal to plenty of folks. Perhaps the most interesting segment is the interview with Cynthia Plastercaster, who has an extensive selection of plaster casts of male rock stars' organs. There's also an appearance by Penn & Teller, which starts off with a gross trick and ends with Teller fronting a song for the band Bongos, Bass and Bob. Material from other eras appears as well, notably some Betty Page shorts (interesting historically if hardly titillating these days) and a Superman cartoon that they probably didn't have the rights to. All in all, this collection of pop culture is worth screening despite the uneven production and the flatness of a few segments. (MG)

★★★★★

San Francisco Talent Vision: "SFTV" ($16.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave Dept. 1001, Seunnyvale, CA 94086; order #13688): A 1985 collection of New Wave music from San Francisco, edited for cable TV (and bearing all the hallmark signs of public access, notably far too much cutesy processing and glowing computer-generated characters.) It features live performances (recorded at Mabuhay Gardens) of Shock Exchange, Top Cat, and Stickband. None of the bands are all that exciting; the technical proficiency of Stickband on Chapman Stick and other strange things is mildly interesting but that's about it. There's also a rock video by "Starock", whose lead singer coincidentally happens to be the hostess of the show. All in all, I wasn't especially impressed. (MG)

★★★★★

THADDEUS THE HOSE MAN ($25 from Eric Barbour, Sludge Mutation Video Distribution, 6720 Fair Oaks Blvd. #102, Carmichael, CA 95608): No thought, no content, a bit of continuity and the worst lighting job I've seen since my Uncle Skip filmed test patterns on a TV that didn't work. Since it's only 15 minutes long and priced at more than a buck a minute, I'd wait for the reruns on access. (BS)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THEY HYPNOTIZE US INTO STARING AT THEM 7-HOURS-A-DAY WHILE THEY'RE BRAIN-WASHING US AND SUCKING THE BRAINS RIGHT OUT OF OUR HEADS LIKE JABBA THE HUT SUCKING ON A STRAW!!
Y'KNOW...THAT'S THE MOST RIDICULOUS THING I'VE EVER HEARD!!
'COURSE THAT WOULD EXPLAIN GERALDO.....

★★★★★

VIDEO WRITING ($75 from RK Editions, PO Box 444, Prince St. Sta., Nw York, NY 10012): A retrospective of Richard Kostelanetz's forays into video as a medium. He treats it as innovatively as the printed page, the print, or audio. Other writers are content to do readings, a format which he specifically avoids. Some early pieces are set to moire patterns or somewhat animated blobs. "Recyclings" is more ambitious, a multi-tracked video in which cascades of sound pour out of images of Kostelanetz's lips, reading the same text but out of sync with one another. "Epiphanies" uses a character generator, with the words on screen appearing in quick flashes or slow ones and thus taking a decision out of the reader's control. Interspersed with the video writings is a leisurely tour of the media-packed Kostelanetz home, with voiceovers from the author explaining the production and thoughts behind the pieces displayed and excerpted here. An excellent reflexive videotape, and one which should be of interest to anyone studying the bounds of writing. (MG)

VIDEO NOTES

•**Chris Caggiano** (Last Minute productions, 1737 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NY 11385) sent a couple of videos about Central America and the Secret Government. As these are straight bootlegs of broadcast TV, I don't see much point in reviewing them in a journal about independent creativity, but if you want copies, they're $5 each postpaid.

•**DCTV** (87 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10013) is the Downtown Community TV Center, with a busy schedule of screenings and workshops. You can write for their calendar or call (212)-941-1298 for more information.

•**Fry's Incredible Inquiry** (HC76, Box 2207, Garden Valley, ID 83622)rents a variety of videos by mail, from *Water and Crystal Healing* to *Remarkable Memory Secrets*. $5 per rental, with a $20 deposit. Send a couple bucks for a catalog.

•**Hour of Unction** (Eleutheros Productions, PO Box 141, Bearsville, NY 12409) is a new public access CATV show in Woodstock, looking for material in the realm of "anti-TV", from plagiarism and property destruction to oblivion and millenial fervor to "subjective documentaries". Get in touch if you have stuff they could air.

•**Hyperdelic Video** (Ed Wood, 2-31-6 Dai-Zawa, Setagaya-Ku, Tokyo 155, JAPAN) offers a variety of Japanese and other obscure movies, plus Japanese television shows, on videotape. Tapes are 3600 yen for 120 minutes, which seems at least reasonable including shipping.

•**LOOKOUT: Lesbian and Gay Video Festival '90** (c/o Downtown Community Television Center, 87 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10013; (212)-941-1298): Deadline is August 10th, write for more information and an entry form.

•**Master Shots** (100 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02116) is a new series of professional film and video training workshops, kicking off this summer. For more information or a catalog, you can write or phone them at (617)-578-8862.

•**Tapestry International** (Mary Boss, Director of Acquisitions, 924 Broadway, New York, NY 10010) is currently acquiring independently produced drama, fiction and docs in 1/2 hour, hour and feature length for foreign and domestic TV distribution.

•**Umbrella Films** (60 Blake Rd., Brookline, MA 02146) seeks distribution rights for films and videos on environmental policy issues.

•**The Video-SIG Library Supplement** (1030 E. Duane Ave. #C, Sunnyvale, CA 94086) has a listing of films recently released by Video-SIG, distributors of low cost alternatives. A buck or two should land you a copy of this mini-catalog.

NTSC CYBERBEAT

by Belka Stamas

I never saw the original two hour broadcast of *Twin peaks*. I loved *Blue Velvet* and have always respected and enjoyed most of David Lynch's pictures, but with all of the media hype and plain old NETWORK associated with the program, I thought I'd be wasting a Thursday night sitting in front of a TV. I think The Minutemen got it right on their "Double Nickels On The Dime" album with a song called "There Ain't Shit On TV Tonight". But there's an exception to every rule.

A few days after the initial broadcast a friend hand delivered the taped two hours and insisted I watch it. Well, this is what I wanted to do anyway, see a tape and not be regulated by TV GUIDE; after all this is the age of programmable VCRs and I'd be damned if I'd let ABC decide where I'd be on any given Thursday night for two months. Six weeks later I'm giving everything up, including sex, if it interferes with my whereabouts on Thursday evenings between nine and ten because I've just got to be watching. It's the best thing I've ever seen on the small screen.

There are enough experts giving academic critiques on the structural properties of *Twin Peaks* and many more clowns doing imitations of Special Agent Cooper, so there's no need for that sort of discussion here. But as a writer there are aspects of the program that have opened sealed vaults in not just myself, but in people I respect working in the industry. What David Lynch has done is legitimize storytelling again. To be a bit more specific, Lynch has given the mass market a serial that isn't necessarily that offbeat, but offbeat to those that don't seek anything more than what's force fed. The Ewings and Carringtons were the standard for ten years and it's not that people don't want something different, it's just that they don't have the time to look for it.

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Last summer I was visiting some friends and one was a woman twenty years older than myself. I'd known her for many years and was well aware she was fairly "hip" to many of the subcultures that seem to have remained since the creative crash. We decided to rent some videos and on the drive to the store had a discussion about Russ Meyer. She was enthusiastic about Russ and explained the process of watching when he initially released his films. Basically, they were screened at the public library, in a small room with folding chairs, but he had enough of a following to pack the house and there were the fondue parties that followed. We were set to pick up a couple of Meyer films but the store didn't carry any and we settled on *The Manchurian Candidate*.

Now *The Manchurian Candidate* had everything I thought she'd enjoy since it was released in her formative years: Sinatra, Korea, Zombies and Lawrence Harvey, but when the film was over, she said she'd had a difficult time with it because it was so different. She wasn't used to unusual characters, dream sequences and effective plot twists. And this was coming from somebody that is very aware. But what does this have to do with *Twin Peaks*?

Twin peaks gives people something to chew on. Just like *The Simpsons*, it gives large numbers of viewers the opportunity to see and become comfortable with styles that people in the alternative arts take for granted. Because they're on major networks, they aren't taboo topics in office conversations and the trickle down theory in any medium might open doors for artists who aren;t in a cookie cutter situation, But for the boys upstairs, the most important factor of *Twin Peaks* is its strong pull in the ratings.

Nobody can do Lynch like Lynch and I think this is proved by the show's later episodes where guest directors conduct the train Lynch launched with the initial two-hour movie. The program seems to cruise at times and perhaps this is just part of the plan in pacing a story that goes for nine hours. I'm confident the concluding installments will balance the lull, but does this really matter? We're still watching and still wondering why we're watching because who killed Laura Palmer is not important. The Laura Palmer angle is the Maguffin and this is what most writers and filmmakers are excited about.

The Maguffin is an old Hitchcock ploy. In all of his films there was that something, the Maguffin: diamonds, secrets or spies that wasn't symbolically critical but helped move the story line. It's moot, interchangeable and a constant, while the narrative fends for itself because the writing and editing are wound about as tight as you could get. You can't duplicate Patricia Highsmith, but she influenced many writers and they seem to feel stilted because the story isn't important any more, especially to those with production money who know all an audience wants is special effects splatter. *Twin Peaks* draws advertisers, it's extremely well done: monkey see, monkey do—post punk Donna Reed might be dead. I certainly hope so.

As Hollywood continues to merge and distribution channels become smaller for independent filmmakers television has become appealing, You can shoot a film on video in a variety of formats and transfer during post-production to give you some sort of broadcast quality tape. I think the recent surge of super-8 to video is a fine example of this. It was only a few years ago that Spike Lee made *She's Got to Have It* on a budget of $200,000. This was done in 16mm and to do that same film today you'd have to multiply the original figure by three *without* many of the sources he had for distribution. Television, with the expansion of cable, has increased distribution outlets which enables performers to show their works to special interest audiences who care.

I'm not a cartoonist and don't know how artists in the industry feel about the creator of *The Simpsons* and his expansion from print to television. I'm sure it generates hope: the kind of hope that your playground will have much more sand to build castles with. In film and video David Lynch and John Sayles (his pilot *Shannon* was recently shown on a major network) have been influences, if not role models to those in the independent community. They did things their own ways and had to work longer and harder to receive "mainstream" acceptance from an audience that's been used to seeing watered down versions of their styles, styles that corporate executives tainted to fit the needs of the eunuch market. *The Big Chill* was Sayles' *Return of the Seaucus Seven* without a set of stones and this is the best example I can give.

Sayles and Lynch had the opportunity to develop themselves within the art house. The art house is becoming a thing of the past. However, with programs like Real George's Backroom TV which has now broadcast over 100 shows to a very large audience, there are still places to cut your teeth. Keep sending those tapes.

Listings: Our roundup of Public Access for Mutants:

23 Skiddoo (Jeff Economy, Producer, 2271 N. Lincoln #459, Chicago, IL 60614): A new show seen every Thursday night at 11:00 on Public Access channel 19. They feature mostly self-generated material, but also accept shorts under 10 minutes and music vids. Tapes must be submitted in 8mm or 3/4" and include SASE for return. They try to feature one musical guest per week and past performers have included the Mekons, Grant Hart, Eleventh Dream Day, Dos, fIREHOSE, God's Acre and Screaming Trees. Really great graphics on the opening sequence. Episodes are $15 by mail.

Art Maggot Hysteria (Jonathan X, Producer-Technical Director, Black head Records-Productions, PO Box 7687, San Diego, CA 92107; (619)-222-1642): Going into its second broadcast season, AMH is a 1/2 hour program airing in Los Angeles, San Diego, New York, San Francisco and Washington DC. Seeking visual works from artists in all media. 3/4" copies are needed for editing, but all formats can be transferred. Longer works will be serialized. If you have info on performance art clubs in your area, please forward to the above address to create a database of outlets which deal with experimental works (all contributors will have access to the master list).

George Maranville (208 Zandale Dr., Lexington, KY 40503): George is still airing his 1/2 hour show which accepts just about any artistic influence: music vids, documentaries, narratives and electric snow. He also airs serialized programs from other producers. A valuable underground information source too.

Real George's Backroom TV (PO Box 3111, Albany, NY 12203): They've been broadcasting since 1981 and have recently passed the milestone of 100 shows. The last few programs have included videos by Spacemen 3, Giant Sand, Renegade Sound Wave, Flat Duo Jets, Rave-Ups, Young Fresh Fellows, Galaxie 500, Ministry, Front 242, Nitzer Ebb, Agitpop and Sleep Chamber. Accepts 3/4" and 1/2" VHS tapes.

Sludge Mutation Video Products (Eric Barbour, 6720 Fair Oaks Blvd. #102, Carmichael, CA 95608): A distributor looking for independent vids that are too controversial, offensive, or bizarre for anyone to be willing to show. Send reasonably clean and drop-out free VHS, 8mm or 3/4" tapes or just ask for catalog information.

GUP!
FACT SHEET 5

poems. Prasie the editor, a purist survives in this commercial world. Within the next issue, poets appearing here will be identified, but their particular poem(s) will not be. In the spirit of this undertaking, the editor has managed to gather some great stuff. One problem. The editor continues with this offer of free subscriptions to serious American poets: ain't there an inconsistency between "serious American" and this whole of idea of *the poem not the poet*? (D-38)(pj)

GIANTS PLAY WELL IN THE DRIZZLE #25 (Donation from Martha King, 326-A 4th St., Brooklyn, NY 11215): A selection of poems from the mundane to the erotic, with a nice balance of straightforward and experimental work. For the latter, there's a dense thicket of eight poems from Edward Mycue and some haunting disjointed work by Sheila Murphy. For the former, try Kim Barger's "Darkened Sun Deck". (S-8r)(MG)

GRAPEVINE Vol. IV #1 ($1 (?) from Box APU Unit 9106, Azusa, CA 91702): A slightly new wave journal of mostly Christian-inspired poetry. For the most part this is very didactic stuff, and I must admit I find a good deal of it to be tedious. John Williamson does manage a few interesting open-ended pieces. (S-6t)(MG)

Benjamin Green, **MONOLOGS FROM THE REALM OF SILENCE** ($3 from 3415 Patricks Point Dr. #3, Trinidad, CA 95570): A sequence of love poems, from the male narrator to an unnamed woman. The love seems almost painful to him, and the insecurity on why he is so lucky is so thick you can almost taste it. Sex is central but not agonized over; it serves to link the images and the people, but not to dominate them. (D-24)(MG)

GREEN GOAT REVIEW #1 ($2 *CASH/Stamps* for 3 issues from R.J. Neubauer, PO Box 18307, Rochester, NY 14618): A new review of small press material concentrating primarily on poetry, though a few non-poetry publications (such as **FACTSHEET FIVE**) manage to creep in. Neubauer is a working poet and so knows what he's talking about, and you might find this a nice complement to the FF poetry reviews. (S-4)(MG)

Pig Havok, **LOW DEAD GUN** (1 IRC from Unpleasant Books, Box 32, 52 Call Lane, Leeds, LS1 6DT, ENGLAND): A mini of nasty little poems about guns and prison and the worthlessness of life. Havok does not seem to have noticed birds and flowers and all that other poetic stuff. Strong little blurts, unpolished and rough. (M-12)(MG)

Wharton Hood, **HOUSE OF CARDS** ($3 from Runaway Spoon Press, PO Box 3621, Port Charlotte, FL 33949): A collection of haiku in feel if not always precisely in form—short poems that can be unfolded many times. My personal favorite is "a simple request/ absolute morning" which resonates well to me, speaks of inner desires and the perfect world—but then I'm an inveterate morning person. With an introduction by Marshall Hryciuk and distressing illustrations by Richard Beland. (M-056)(MG)

Wharton Hood, **warm drizzle** (30¢ & a stamp from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): a longish sticker with the poet's name and poem rubber-stamped on it. As that title is half of the poem, I can;t reveal any more without giving away the ending. Arty, and sure to perplex if stuck up in, say, the local convenience store. (M-1)(MG)

Albert Huffstickler, **ROAD TO LLANO** ($2 from Press of Circumstance, 312 E. 43 #103, Austin, TX 789751): A set of rather introspective poems recording a single weekend trip. They range from starting and driving thoughts to a cafe (probably the best piece here) to waiting while a companion climbs a hill. Huffstickler seems to be groping for poetic epiphany, but failing that, still refuses to stop writing, and so brings about a gentle human contact. (D-7)(MG)

HUNGRY ZIPPER #5 ($1 from Brian David J(o(h)n)ston, Sober Minute Press, 545 Lowther St. S, Cambridge, ONT, N9A 1P7, CANADA): A small and curious publication which comes in a plastic bag with a couple of postcards. Inside there's a poem by Guy R. Beining, rubberstamped in several colors and as perplexing as his work usually is. There's something going on here, but you don't know what it is... (MM-4)(MG)

ICHOR #1-2 (free from 2304 Pinebrook Lane, Des Moines, WA 98198): The editors claim that this small zine is filled with esoteric poetry, though it's somewhat unclear what the esoteric field is. Many of the symbols are of the insect, skull, white-frocked maiden variety. None of these are especially scary or thought-provoking or even entertaining. But the editors have noted their need for submissions, and should they better-define their interests, I'm sure there are countless writers willing to contribute works. (HL-4)(pj)

ICONS OF STARCHASM ($2 from Hilltop Press, 4 Nowell Place, Almondbury, Huddersfield, HD5 8PB, West Yorkshire, ENGLAND): A record of the science fiction poetry events at the convention Iconoclasm. The work here ranges from short snippets by Steve Sneyd to Pete Cox's jaunty "Power Armour". Good stuff, including an Exquisite Corpse and some other warmup exercises from a workshop held at the con. (D-16r)(MG)

Idy, **CONFUSION** (50¢ from 516 3rd St. NE, Massillon, OH 44646): A collection of short poems and sketches from a concerned teen who seems frequently upset by the world. Some of this work could stand editing, especially poems that tell the reader about their own construction, but there are some gems here as well. Idy is still learning how to get feelings on paper, moving from doggerel to surprisingly strong verse about injustice or just friends. (M-20r)(MG)

Idy, **RALPH THE SERPANT LOVER** (10¢ & SASE from 516 3rd St. NE, Massillon, OH 44646): A single long poem that is a mixture of fragmented images. Looks like the poet doesn't know where the poem is going and isn't particularly worried, caring more about putting together juxtapositions such as "i think i'll wear a cucumberbund mask/papa smurf is a satanist and i can prove it" (M-8r)(MG)

IMPETUS #18 ($3 from Cheryl A. Townsend, 4975 Comanche Trail, Stow, OH 44224): All manner of strong modern poetry, lots of erotica, a few rants, some personal poetry addressed to the editor (Mark Weber apologizing for drunkenness, for example). Michael Battram has a nasty little poem of helplessness, which I suppose balances some of the hot material from folks like Kelly Green and Kristopher Saknussemm (who writes of teen boy crushes in a way as erotic as most slippery friction poetry). (HL-52)

IN A DREAM ($3 from Minotaur Press, PO Box 4039, Felton, CA 95018): A chapbook combining works from four poets, of whom two stand out for opposite reasons. George Sparling's dreams are ugly, full of hate and lust, and ultimately quite depressing; the poet seems to wallow in the underside of the world, rather than telling us anything aboutit. Joanne Townsend, on the other hand, displays an economy of word that leaves the reader wanting more, with gentle dreams of love and life. Also includes works from Michael Wilds and Maggi H. Meyers. (D-44r)(MG)

IOTA 7 ($1.25 from David Holliday, 67 Hady Crescent,

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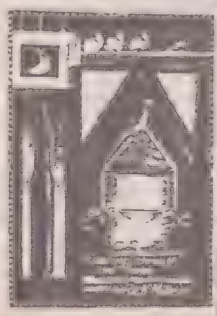

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Chesterfield, Derbyshire S41 OEB): A poetry journal from far-off shores. I see little international poetry, and there's something here that's refreshingly different in the voices, though I struggle to pin this difference on anything in particular. Kate Fielding's "Can Anyone Tell Me the Time, Please?" describes a situation of a confused woman calling-out her own front door; the author creates a frightfully realistic scene. Enjoyable reading. (D-28)(pj)

JOURNAL OF NJ POETS Vol. XII #1 ($4 from County College of Morris, Rt 10 and Center Grove Rd, Randolph, NJ 07869): Although published for 12 years, this is the 1st issue under the editorial care of Morris College. The editor(s) has managed to collect polished voices. Among them, is Joe Salerno, who opens the journal with "Elegy for William Lebo": this is a sad reminiscence of a sickly young schoolmate who died in obscurity one lonely summer. Look forward to seeing future issues. (D-60)(pj)

KOBISENA #34 (2 IRCs from P-40 Nandana Park, Calcutta 700034, INDIA): A rather unique magazine of poetry which depends heavily on typographic symbols and dingbats: arrows pointing hither and thither, open and filled circles, mathematical signs and so on. Despite this it is fairly linear and straightforward, with a generally philosophical bent. (D-16t)(MG)

James Koehnline, **DODGE TIMES ON THE MICROBIAL MAT** ($1 from 7750 Long Ave., Skokie, IL 60077): "Welcome to Coyote country", as it says a couple time sin the heart of this lyric reading. It's full of chaos and wonder, open-ended conspiracies of life and "neo-hoodoo semiotics". A wild and wooly text, bound in hand-marbled card stock. (D-8)(MG)

David C. Kopaska-Merkel, **ECHO** (10¢ & 25¢ postage from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): A single poem on a sticker, so you can share it with the public when you're done. The words themselves seem to make little sense, but the rhythm is strong and a meaning tickles just beyond the edge of my consciousness when staring at these four lines. (MM-1)(MG)

LEGUMES #4 ($1 from Accelerator Press, 1708 martin Luther King Jr. Way #4, Berkeley, CA 94709): A booklet of poetry edited by J.D. Buhl and called "Walking and Sinning". Most of the poetry here consists of fragmentary visions, quickly changing snapshots that staggered together create life., Nora Garcia's untitled poem on a trivial life hits strongly, as does work from Janet McCann and Wm. Breiding. (D-16t)(MG)

LILLIPUT REVIEW #12 ($1 from D. Wentworth, 4 Huddy Avenue, Highlands, NJ 07732): Remembering how disappointed I was last time, this issue is quite a contrast. Each of the 10 poems in this mini are apt to find their own happy readers. There's Weinman, Lifshin, and Huffstickler among others. "Work," by Christien Gholson, gave a lasting impression of a heavy but simple human labor. (M-12)(pj)

LILLIPUT REVIEW #13 ($1 from D. Wentworth, 4 Huddy Ave., Highlands, NJ 07732): A small but sometimes feisty poetry zine. #13 is a broadside by Lonnie Sherman, written one early morning in the Red Hot Restaurant. Sherman does what he does best, capturing the disjointed swirl of life out of the limelight, and it's an enjoyable distillation of an hour. (D-4r)(MG)

LIME GREEN BULLDOZERS (AND OTHER RELATED SPECIES) #12 ($2 from Lainie Duro, 723 N. Highland Ave., Arlington Hts., IL 60004): LGB is publishing more short prose pieces these days, but it remains primarily a zine of short poetry and graphics. Lots of new voices here, all clamoring for attention. Derek Claussen trips lightly down the page with an examination of the human condition, Denise McMiller looks inward with "The Samurai Poet", and Eel O. makes some points about change in "Kingdoms Rise and Kingdoms Fall"—among dozens of other poems. (S-56t)

LYNX Spring-Summer 1990 ($4 from PO Box 169, Toutle, WA 98649): I haven't seen this one in a while, because PJ has been snarfing it. While I wasn't paying attention, it's grown well beyond the roots of being a participatory zine of renga and other eastern forms of poetry written by subscribers. Now there are renga that include the interaction of only two poets, articles about what makes this verse form special, the occasional zine review, and who knows what else. The spirit is still super-friendly and the look is very classy. (O-32t)(MG)

Anthony S. Magistrale & Robert H. Knox, **OBSESSIONS** ($3.95 from RFD #2, Box 63, Center Harbor, NH 03226-9729): Magistrale is the author and Knox is the illustrator of this science fiction/fantasy poetry chapbook. The poems tell some engaging stories. For instance, "Life in Harry Orth's Office" is about a temporary professor occupying the office of the tenured prof who's away on sabbatical: lunch in the company of Thoreau, Whitman, Melville, Hardy, etc. is quite fascinating. The word for this book is "entertaining." (HS-40)(pj)

Angela Mark, **SEPARATE SOULS** ($5 from American Living Press, PO Box 901, Allston, MA 02134): A selection of short choppy underworld poetry and accompanying drawings. (One of these is reproduced in lovely psycho-color on the cover). Angela captures bits of emotions and feelings more than ideas or stories, and seems to be inhabiting a poetic world filled with frightening sights and sounds. (S-28)(MG)

Mabel McGowan, **TESTAMENT TO A LIFE** ($4 from New Hope International, 20 Werneth Avenue, Gee Cross, Hyde SK14 5NL, UK): The title poem of this collection is most fascinating, a framework for considering one's experience only partly filled in by the poet, inviting reader participation and contemplation. McGowan takes several other tacks in exploring ways to liver as well, from the verbo-visual "Cycle" to the codified advice of "Fight the Good Fight". (A5-36)(MG)

Rick Miller, **JESSICA** (best offer from Box 4571-186789, Lima, OH 45802): One flowing prosaic poem by a father, and inspired by a young daughter. Jessica is a young woman on a swing with the world ticking around her. Yet her only concerns are the friendly sun and its cousin, her shadow. A beautiful piece. Great for reading aloud to young people. (M-16)(pj)

Jerry D. Milley, **STANDING IN LINE** ($2 from Manic D Press, PO Box 410804, San Francisco, CA 94141): Poems which capture some of the feel of homelessness, of spending eternity standing in lines and waiting for events that never happen. There are plenty of hopeless men here, characters who just float through the poems without a future. Understated but raw. (D-20t)

MINOTAUR #20 ($3 from PO Box 4039, Felton, CA 95018): A collection of 30 or 40 poets from all over, some familiar names, some not. Interesting work includes "The Sad Flautist", a nasty little thing from Richrd Wilmarth, and a unique look at "Purgatory" by Michael Wilds. Other contributors include Belinda Subraman and Lyn Lifshin. (D-44r)

MOMENT IN BRONZE ($5 (?) from Fantome Press, PO Box 888, Warren, OH 44482): An arty spiral-bound book of poems by Jim Villani with visual additions by CM James. Villani writes an industrial poetry, and James goes after the blank pages here with spray paint, rubber stampings, and stark blockprint images. A collectible sort of booklet. (S-10)

MUTATED VIRUSES #11 (Send stamps to Angi, 818 W. Diversey #G, Chicago, IL 60614): This is the last **MV**, but Angi says there's more coming some time under another name. It goes out with a bang, 144 poems, mainly sort of new wave and punk in one manner or another, together with art and playful typesetting. Alan Catlin, Phil Lollar, Cliff Dweller, Andrew Gettler, Todd Mecklem and M. Kettner are among the fine distinct voice here. (D-108t)(MG)

D.W. Myatt, **DECORATION BY BOMBS** (7 IRCs from Thormynd Press, PO Box 4, Church Stretton, Shropshire SY6 6ZZ, ENGLAND): Subtitled "Poems of Love and War", this is a very introspective book. It starts out hopeful, or at least wistful, in memories of live. Then the poet moves through some harsher material, remnants of war on landscapes within and without. Finally it all comes together in a sort of synthesis of experience, with feelings grasped and lessons learned. (A4-44)(MG)

MY EYE #4 ($1 from 6816 Jackson #2, Warren, MI 48091): Short choppy poetry that reminds me of some of the Midwestern grit school of writers. Sex, violence, disappointment and roadkills are among the subjects here, all in no-nonsense snappy poems, Comes with a free sticker. (D-20)(MG)

MY HAMMER IS RED #3 (one stamp from Plaster Cramp Press, PO Box 1083, Wheaton, IL 60189): A small broadside of 6 poems, printed on red paper. Dumars and Mycue have works here, but neither their poems nor the others' are memorable. Appears to be the kind of publication that may be best appreciated by a select group—the authors' friends? (HS-8)(pj)

R.J. Neubauer, **AFTERNOON IN VERMONT** ($IAFTERNOON IN VERMONT(SASE from PO Box 18307, Rochester, NY 14618):

Libertarian Activist/Scientist Plundered by DEA Without Due Process

Libertarian activist and businessman Kevin Bjornson *is* guilty of thought-crimes in the United State of America. No trial, no indictment, no jury of his peers; just stripped of his possessions and left to rot. Months have passed since Operation Green Merchant, like a plague of locusts, was let loose across our nation last October.

Garden supply businesses were swept up with gestapo-like precision: inventories confiscated without compensation, mail order account records seized, employees searched and man-handled, bank accounts frozen.

As of early February, three and one-half months since the plunder took place, scores of witnesses have testified before grand juries in major cities across the country. Many witnesses have been recalled two and three times. So far, federal officials have been unable to convince a grand jury that there is any reason to criminally prosecute Bjornson, although virtually all of his property has been stolen without hearing.

As proprietor of Hydro-Tech (Seattle, Washington & Portland, Oregon) for nearly a decade, Kevin Bjornson is a leading authority on hydroponic technology and cultivation. He has dedicated his career to further knowledge and experimentation, more bountiful and cost-effective vegetable, fruit, and flower production.

Both locations of Hydro-Tech were raided by the Drug Enforcement Administration on October 26, 1989. As of this writing, the bank accounts remain frozen and none of the inventories or records have been returned.

Yet Bjornson remains liable for sales tax, withholding, workman's compensation, mortgage payments, utility bills, supplier debts, etc. With the available options limited, he has closed the Portland location to consolidate his resources in Seattle. All but one employee has been laid off. Hydro-Tech remains open for business.

Drug Czar Bill Bennett has declared that since some of the indoor lighting/hydroponic equipment sales go to pot growers, those who retail and wholesale such equipment are drug profiteers and co-conspirators. Of course, manufacturers who supply Bjornson and others with inventory have not suffered any consequences (familiar names like General Electric, North American Phillips, and Gardena).

Bjornson has not been charged with any crime, has not been subpoenaed, or issued a warrant, or arrested. No illegal substances were found on his premises. With his bank accounts and assets seized, Bjornson is unable to pay an attorney. If he *was* able to find the money, it too would be seized before paying an attorney, as it *may* have been obtained as profit from a drug deal. Only money raised by his defense committee (and unfortunately, some of our tax money) can be legally used to help defend him.

The Berlin Wall has come crashing down and Eastern Europe revels in their new-found freedom. In the United States, because Kevin Bjornson's brain contains information deemed dangerous by drug-ayatollah Bill Bennett, thought crime has become a reality.

Kevin Bjornson is a real victim of the War on Drugs. He has been stripped of the civil liberties granted U.S. citizens by our Constitution. Drug prohibition is a major cause of crime, violence, and AIDS. The price we are paying for prohibition can only be measured by the degrees of lost civil liberties. The price is too high.

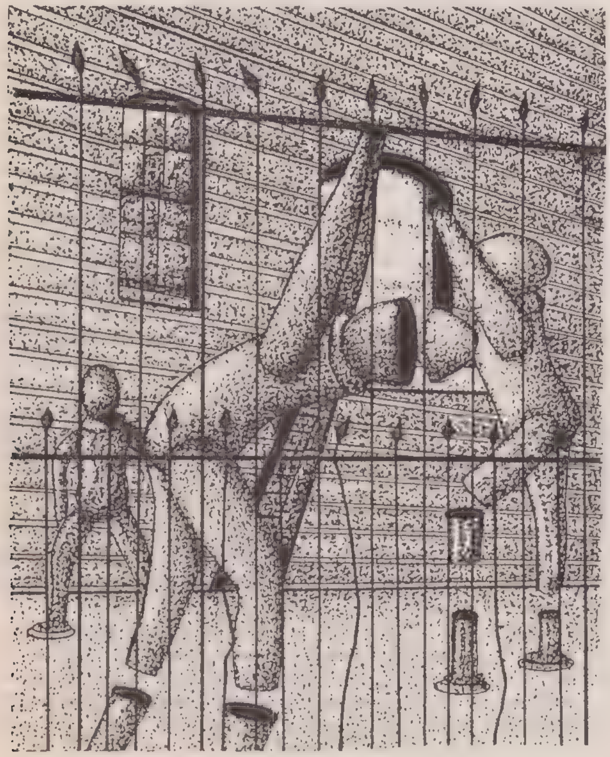
Please help. Send contributions for Kevin Bjornson's legal expenses to Citizens for Freedom of Agriculture, 1916-M Old Middlefield Way, Mountain View, CA 94043 or call 415-965-1506.

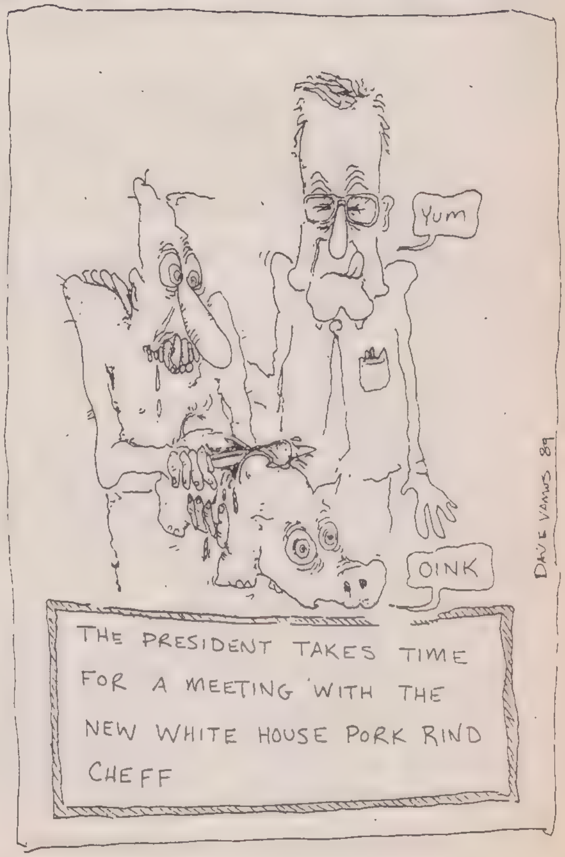
★★★★★

Æditor's note: I don't ordinarily print press releases in **FACTSHEET FIVE.** This one I thought was important enough to warrant doing so. I've been in touch with eyewitnesses to these DEA raids and the government is way out of line on this one.

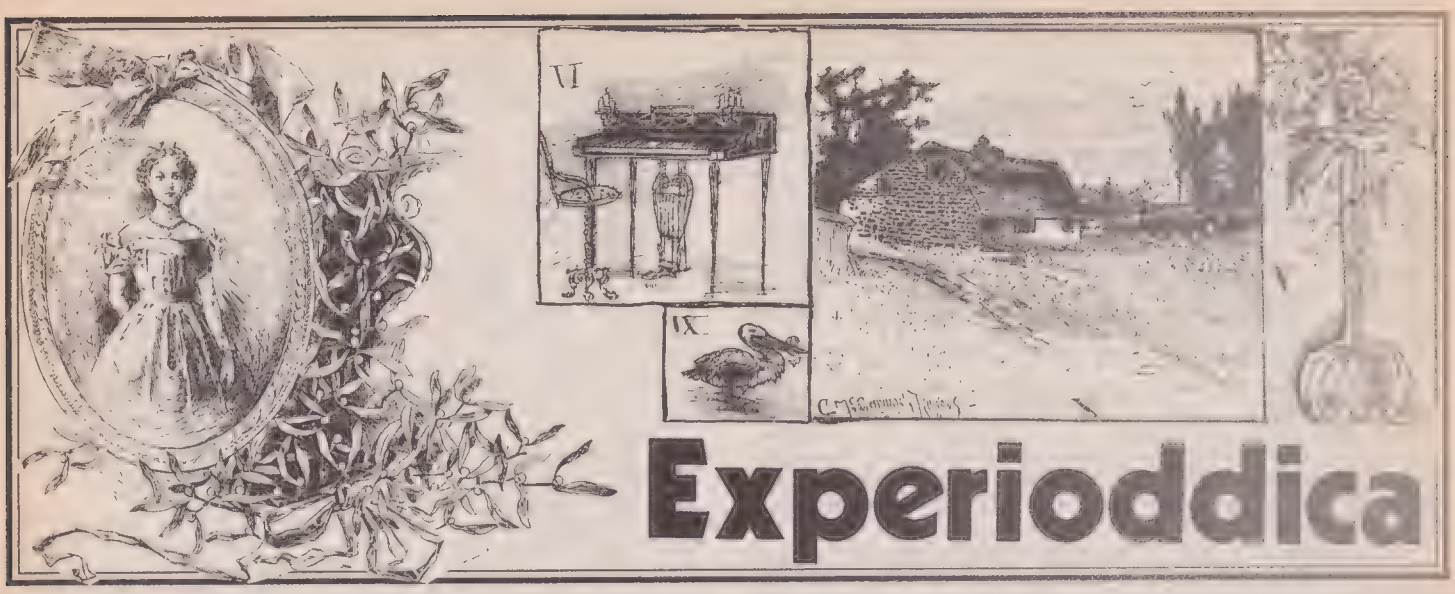
NOTE: YOU MAY HAVE ALREADY SENT FOR THIS.

Are SYSTEM PEOPLE MISSING OUT? I THINK YOU ARE! DO-AS-YOU-ARE-TOLD! IS THAT ALL YOU KNOW? THERE ARE ALTERNATIVES TO THE HATED AMERICAN MEDIA -86% DON'T TRUST IT. SEND $_{0}3^{\underline{00}}$ (3 FRNS) FOR BASIC INFORMATION WITH OPTIONS TO FRANK PEARL, 61 S JULIAN #FF3, DENVER CO 80201





THE PRESIDENT TAKES TIME FOR A MEETING WITH THE NEW WHITE HOUSE PORK RIND CHEFF



Experioddica

by Bob Grumman

I have an important announcement to make: I have sustained my first ripping as a **FACTSHEET FIVE** columnist. "Self-indulgent crap," is what Mark Bloch called my work here in his interesting but erratic recent booklet about the 1989 Festival of Plagiarism in Glasgow, **THE LAST WORD** (available from Panmag, PO Box 1500, New York, NY 10009-8905, price negotiable). He wasn't referring to my present focus on my own press but to the way I "tear apart 'visual poetry' letter by letter." Since I know of no other way than such close analysis to discuss poetry whose expressive value is concentrated not in its words or sounds but in its letters, I doubt that Bloch will ever persuade me to reform.

But enough of this side-indulgence. On to Part Two of my discussion of my Runaway Spoon Press. In Part One I discussed 24 of its 36 titles. Most of the rest are collections of textual poetry—poetry dependent only, or almost only, on words, that is, I at first was not going to publish purely textual poetry, but I got so many good manuscripts in that genre that I changed my mind, and eventually accepted the following ten: **HOUSE OF CARDS**, by Wharton Hood; **FULL PENNY JAR**, by M Kettner; **TURNING SIGHTS IN A CIRCULAR DRIVEWAY**, by Stacey Sollfrey; **SWELLING**, by John M. Bennett; **DORNOBBER**, by Nico Vassilakis; **ALETHEIA RAPED**, by Doru Chirodea; **3 WINDOWS**, by Greg Evason; **BETWEEN**, by jwcurry and Steven Smith; **A POND OF STARS**, by Karl Kempton; and **AMERICAN STANDARD**, by Crag Hill. (Each is available for $3 from RASP, PO Box 3621, Port Charlotte, FL 33949).

Hood's **HOUSE OF CARDS** is a collection of haiku. According to **MODERN HAIKU** reviewer Wally Swist, it is "peculiar and, in the very least, anti-aesthetic." Marshall Hryciuk is more intelligent when he speaks in his introduction to the book of Hood's extending haiku's range to "premonitions, phantasy, interpretation and foreboding." As in Hood's "excavation/ imagine if one had a large black hat." I'm not sure even now that I can explain the click of this but I'm sure it has to do with burials and funerals, and with dark hat-shapes and volumes, and pasts and consciousnesses dug into—or taken magically from, as from a magician's top hat...

FULL PENNY JAR by M. Kettner, is another collection of mostly dislocational haiku. Wally Swist found it uneven, but enthusiastically praised one selection: "dressed to kill:/ man in rags"—which, ironically, I dins a little too facilely socially-conscious. My favorite Kettner is "siren   distant pine tree." I particularly like the way its spaces make the reading fade like the siren as one scans from siren-urgency to pine-serenity. The second meaning of "pine" adds a nice undertone, too. There are a number of other fine haiku in the book, and Mike Miskowski illustrates them inimitably and strikingly, mostly with computer-generated/de-generated images of urbicides in progress.

Similarly fine haiku by Kettner appear in bomb shelter propaganda's edition of **POLAROID TAVERN** (only $1 from PO Box 12268, Seattle, WA 98102). One sardonically witty example of its contents is the title poem: "Polaroid tavern:/ women chewing spearmint gum/ men all want instant pain"".

For more of Miskowski's work, I recommend a title put out by Jake Berry's ABSCOND (2251 Helton Dr. #N-7, Florence, AL 356630), **APPLIANOIDAL GRPHCUS BIRTHDAY ELAPS** (cost: $3), which consists mainly off overtly computer-produced drawings of ordinary household electrical outlets, often with plugs in them, trailing their cords, Simply as a set of "applianoidal" still lifes and variations thereon, Miskowski's pieces are endlessly fascinating to the eye. But their magic flows far beyond the eye: into, for instance, an awareness of industrial technology's being the wallpaper of our time, unnoticedly dominating us, when not very noticeably doing worse—as when cars fill a view up to the very eyeballs of two onlookers, and advance, like numberless ants, passionlessly, namelessly, inexorably...

In **TURNING SIGHTS IN A CIRCULAR DRIVEWAY**, Stacy Sollfrey races through participial phrases too shiftingly fast for any of her poems to let a listener-in catch his breath at a comma much less a period. Thus in "Connect the Trampoline" she speaks of mirrors, and of "knowing that if she dived against their surfaces/ she's compress the roof/ by falling the atmosphere/ up off slopes of tapping feet/ never extending the hyphenated choices/ taking terms being kicked down the stairs/ in measured steps/ one at a time..." and the reader bounces between imagery and moods too swooshingly fast for the muzak of his intellect to bland their highs and lows down to the level of most current poetry.

John Bennett's poems do similar things, but through rawer moods and imagery than Sollfrey's. The speaker of a typical Bennett poem from **SWELLING**, for instance, has his "head in (his) lunch like slugs/ crawled from (his) eyes." He might be able chew his way out "but the sides of the bowl are too steep." Bennett might well be the greatest lyrical poet of the anti-lyrical ever. For just one example of this, take "Looking Up," apoem from his recent collection, **MILK** (available for $2 from Luna Bisonte Prods, 137 Leland Ave., Columbus, OH 43214): "What I lift to sky's last/ blue's my fast blurring eye,/ chewed in thought's cankered/ mouth or gutter. Or is thinking's/ stream no shift, just light that/ hankers? From the roof's dark vents/ smoke ustters, like my dream's/ sinking to the astral mothers".

Another Bennett title worth looking into is TIDE, which is available for a dollar from Luna Bisonte Prods. It consists of just four poems, but the sequence they combine in is an amazingly rich triple tide of everyday experience, iconic mindsurge and ocean cycles.

Bennett also participated in another recent RASP, Nico Vassilakis's **DORNOBBER**—as calligrapher. (The book also has translations into Greek by Helen and Mary Bournas.) DORNOBBER consists of 14 short free-verse poems that loosely unify in a picture of their speaker—who wants "to be a magnet for all spirited toys." The threefold languaging of the stanzas especially pleases me. Bennett's cripply calligraphy appropriately captures the poet's winds and twigs, and bright-logicked craziness. And the addition of Greek, in Greek lettering, envigoratingly suggests, for me, an ethereal counter-site to the primitive one that Bennett's calligraphy creates of Vassilakis's synthesis of the two in conventional typography.

Two other Vassilakis books, **vowel**, and **BUS:**, came out recently, by the way. The first is available for $2 from meemaw & pawpaw press, 124 1/2 Broadway East, Box 16, Seattle, WA 98102, in an excellently crafted paperback. It is a refreshingly unraucous rumination against such curent eveils as "the ash/ of the most modern/ of worlds" with which 6-year-olds are staining their lungs. Mostly, though, it is ahymn to the freedom that for Vassilakis the vowel represents, and against the kind of rigid containment that the consonant represets: "water is vowel/ a straw is not/ water is vowel/ leaders and gutters are not water is vowel/ fire engines are not/ water is vowel".

BUS: is available from Burning Press, 727 E. Main St., Columbus, OH 43205, price unkown but probably under $2. It includes a fine homage to Gregory Corso—which reminds me: anyone intrested in people from the beat generation like Corso and Kerouac should look in **ALPHA BEAT SOUP** ($5/2 issues from Alpha Beat Press, 5110, rue Adam, Montreal, PQ, H1V 1W8 Canada) and **MOODY STREET IRREGULARS** ($10/4 issues from Box 157, Clarence Center, NY 14032).

Oh, I have one more Bennett announcement to make: on the first of August, 1990, his magazine, **LOST & FOUND TIMES** (available for 5 issues/$14 from Luna Bisonte Prods, 137 Leland Ave., Columbus, OH 43214), will be fifteen years old! Everyone who believes in editors who open their mazimally to the work of un- or little knowns (79 different artists in the current issue) should applaud this.

Anybody who can write a poem about his master's advising him that if he "ever gets bitten by the might capybara do/ piss on your wounds that very cure will bring about/ a clear confusion a coherent incoherence a man woman/ and a kansas arkansas..." and end it with "but she's a heckuva girl after all/ tonight i'll screw her good just for the hell of it" is my kinda guy. Not for the sex, mind you, but for the man/WOman kansas/ARkansas parallel. But the sense of humor, too. I'm speaking now of Doru Chirodea, author of **ALETHEIA RAPED**. His othe rpoems do fascinating things, too, and are accompanied by some very droll and sensual, scratchy but sophisticated line drawings by Giulia Oretti—as well as an informative introduction by Neil S Kvern.

3 WINDOWS, by Greg Evason, consists mainly of scraps of arresting images and ideas—such as, "extreme noise:/ eyes dripping humans:' "bee-lisps of strangers/, a way to feed babies;" "the stop sings"... Each makes a life by itself, but collaged against its neighbors generates—well, all the lucky noise tht the best visual collages do. One more example: the word, "morose," directly under "morning," referring appropriately to rising (via the emphasized "rose")—but, of course, descending rather than rising, much less rosily rising...

One of the few RASPbooks whose physical construction is unconventional is **BETWEEN**. In is jwcurry and Steven Smith state a poem of about 30 words that is almost a trees/sky/moon parody of 19th Century Enlish Romantic Poetry (but nice), then perform 6 variations on it which bring it down to just: "moon curls/ neck connects/ tongue cuts/ eye forgets". At that point four pages split across the middle resulting in eight half pages, each of them containing ofne of the precing eight words quoted. This allows the page-turner to compose and recompose the poem into such varied ideas as a neck's not only connecting, but sometimes cutting, or forgetting. In the meantime repeated exposure blurs the page-turner slowly aware of all the similarities and differences and under-relations of eye, tongue and neck, against the otherest object in nature: the lifeless, near untouchable, perectly round, shallow eternal moon.

For more of Evason and curry, I strongly recommend the latest issues of curry's magazine, **INDUSTRIAL SABOTAGE**, numbers 45 ($1) 46 ($2) and 47 ($2?). Actually #45 has nothing by either Evason or curry, it's worth getting for the poem in the shape of an apple peel by Nicholas Power (who wrote the introduction to **3 WINDOWS**) and (RASPauthor) Steven Smith's variations on Timm Uhlrichs's classical rose/eros concrete poem.

Evason has a seemingly simple combination of typed words ("she is pleasing/ herself privately/ she thinks.") and thick lines delineating what looks like sheets of paper cascading out a window in #46 that I read as something peeping tommed into, and shattering into publicity like a smashed window. The issue also contains an interesting piece by RASPpwoermdist G. Huth in which a twig like clutter of the last five letters of the alphabet appears on a tag tied to a small bundle of genuine twigs that I hope eventually to work up a snazzy and impressive take on as a discussion of names returning to nameds and vice versa.) The other stuff in the issue is excellent, too.

INDUSTRIAL SABOTAGE #47 is one more example of curry's talent as packager. It consists of 33 haiku-sized poems (I call them "kernular" poems) on business cards that come with a little plastic businesscard-rack. An ideal way to enjoy little poems, it seems to me. The poets represented include RASPers Hood, Beining, Me, Kettner, Evason, DiMichele—and many excellent non-RASPic poets such as LeRoy Gorman "coming up in rows/ the anarchist's asparagus" I quite liked).

Evason and curry are also part of **ANTHOLOGY** (publisher: scenario press; cost: $2) which they provide with a brilliant collaboration that combines Formal-Typography-as-Pure-Design with scrawl-as-ever-encroaching-AntiDesign, the latter represented by the utterance, "slice the swollen gas!" The anthology also contains a great cover-poem by Crag Hill, a poem by Charles Schulz (Yes, Snoopy's creator) and all in all seems intended to present vizlature at its most winning rather that at its most formidable.

So does yet another collection Evason and curry have work in, the Sober Minute Press's **bfp(h)aGe** (which costs $8). Evason's selections include several pieces I can't fathom, but also two or three quite accessible jokes, including one which begins "b4I4Q" which I won't translate 'cause its *dirty*. Curry's include one that seems almost a collection of vizlature itself, so much goes on in it. (Note: **ANTHOLOGY, bfp(h)aGe** and **INDUSTRIAL SABATOGE** are all available from Room 302, 1357 Lansdowne Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M6H 3Z9.)

The overt concers of Karl Kempton's second RASPbook are mainly ecological, with the ozone hole, for instance; the vision is haiku-wise and large: "the mystery of star families/ blooms in a purple cosmos/ az pollen flies daisyward." Bees, mockingbirds, a redtail hawk, pine needles—northrn California is breezefully present in these poems, and so is the casual human day-to-day of work (as a housepainter), driving, soaking in a hot tub, just strolling... A lyrical love of life is the book's main message for me, but it is vigorously under-veined with a compassionate if low-key awareness of the petrochemical "progress" undiminishingly threating us, and of the possiblity of a future with more than one species larger than grasshoppers in it.

Another Kempton work has come out, a collaboration of Kempton and his wife Ruth, **FIRE + WATER/ BALANCE THE BOOK** (which is available for $5 from Membrane Press, Box 4190 Kenosha, WI 53141). What I find most interesting in this work is its use of our culture's *least* intuitive and sensual materials—typographical symbols such as dashes, plus-signs and asterisks—to promote the fullest appreciation of the world as pulsingly more than what the intellect tells us it is.

Hill's **AMERICAN STANDARD** is more what I call "metaverbal" than textual becuse its letters are often as eloquent as its words. Mainly, however, it is just plain fun: e.g., "cant'" and "No Wonder/ and its capitals." Many others, such as a conversation consisting of nothing but punctuation marks, which is whimsically amusing...but sharpens into poetry when the pauses also begin speaking in punctuation marks, too. Aphorisms, visual poems, arithmetical poems, literary criticism, puns and other jokes, found poems, indescribables..."These insouciant shards vibrate in the signal points where meanings con- and di- verge," as John Byrum has it in his apt introduction.

Two other RASPs remain to be named: Glen Russell's, **THE PLANTINGS**, and my own **A STRAYNGECATALOGUE. A SEQUEL TO A STRAYNGEBOOK**, the latter also serves, I hope as an entertaining brief anthology of works from the books RASP has published. AS for Russell's book it is RASP's first prose book, being a collection of surrealistic short narratives primarily, and arrestingly, about metamorphoses, such as that of a bookkeeper into his desk. but it also contains over a dozen montages which illustrate the narratives, so technically it rises "above" prose into illuscriptation. In any event, it is a good deal of fun to read, and look at.

And with that I've come to the end of my discussion of my press. By the time this appears in print, the Spoon will be three whole years old. I look forward to a good many more yers with it, and the art it attracts onto what it prints.

Conspiracy Corner

by Kerry Wendell Thornley

If for no other reason: anyone who will violate your rights will also violate anyone else's rights—so to cooperate with them in any way is to sanction the erosion of rights.

★★★★★

When Richard Nixon eventually wrests control over all the mechanisms of power there will be a very great demand for extremely tall men who look like Richard Nixon among the lights.

★★★★★

What shall I do with the rest of my life? I sit here in the Pub this afternoon and ask myself, fully aware that I cannot even figure out what to do with the remainder of this day.

★★★★★

("For Shame", says my Zen self.)

(The Great Zen Master in the Sky will hit me with his staff for thinking about either one.)

★★★★★

(If I was working today, I'd be thinking: how long is it going to be before I'm sitting in the Pub?)

★★★★★

Too much mental activity harms the personality.

★★★★★

Maurice Bishop is mentioned on page 4 of the 9 August 1984 **WORKERS WORLD** as having led an anti-imperialist revolution in Grenada in 1978. This is the name used to indicate one of the C.I.A. contacts involving, as I recall, plots on Castro in, I think, **THE HOUSE ASSASSINATION REPORT**. (?)

★★★★★

QWN: "...it was the worst of times." (Dickens' exact wording.)
Today's Date: 8 August 1984
Yesterday';s date: 7 August 1984

★★★★★

7 A.M. in The Majestic after a pleasant night's sleep on one of the rooftops of the world. News in the paper: "In the past, partisan politics had little effect on the TVA, although the agency's policies have been heavily influenced by the personal philosophies of the Directors."—**THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION**, page 2-A.

★★★★★

According to the **WORKERS WORLD** one of the vast holdings in absentee natural resources in the third world—particularly Latin America—belongs to Peter Grace of Grace Chemical. They never fail to say nice things about Grace, Zabriski, MacEachron in canted signs, etc.

★★★★★

I still think if I ever solve the riddle of that woman I'll have the key to the JFK murder, which seems to involve her "traveling" from one conspiracy to another, probably as a result of being connected to Objectivism.

★★★★★

Probably from the Meyer-Graham faction of European monarchists, etc.—though not necessarily. Anyway, whoever it was was anti-central banking—so probably what they call Fire.

★★★★★

C__________'s very uptight about threats being made to this faction—which probably includes Mark Lane and Paula Perry and Grace MacEachron, etc. There is a policy of maintaining a Bolshevik monopoly over the probes of the JFK murder which is good insofar as it supports 3rd world involvement rather much, but bad also because Bolsheviks are notorious liars who will never tell us more than a partisan version of the truth. I think all that has something to do with it. I support all libertarian positions—although that particular faction annoys me very much because of the personalities of the individuals involved—and of course it is rather to the right of my own position. Their plans for America are included in a manifesto Mildred Loomis gave me which is so mediocre I don't remember the name of it and which reads like it was compiled exclusively by attorneys. So I'm not as enthusiastic about defending them as might otherwise be true.

Besides that I suspect them of being among my staunchest misinterpretors—always trying to take advantage of my ignorance and that of others to make it seem like I'm wholeheartedly approving their past actions including in particular the Jonestown massacre 00 about which I'm very ambivalent.

★★★★★

Breaking up the alliance between these people and the Swiss bankers seems to be the immediate goal of their opposition—in which case a probe of the Sambo's in Tampa might prove useful.

★★★★★

P__________, as obnoxious as I find her at times, is basically not a reactionary—and probably would be helpful here.

★★★★★

Anyway, Tracy Barnes would be backing the Swiss slightly to the right of Mark Lane, I imagine. They've been working together closely in relation to me since they got control of F__________'s faction in Tujunga (that owned the property where I lived and tended to give me problems with unwanted bugging devices) in 1978.

★★★★★

That faction was alleged to be an anti-mind control group that was essentially Klu Klux Klan based, that suffered defeat with the election of Pope John Paul II, or, anyway, with the death of John Paul I. (See in particular the "Lindberger Airfield Crash" stories.)

★★★★★

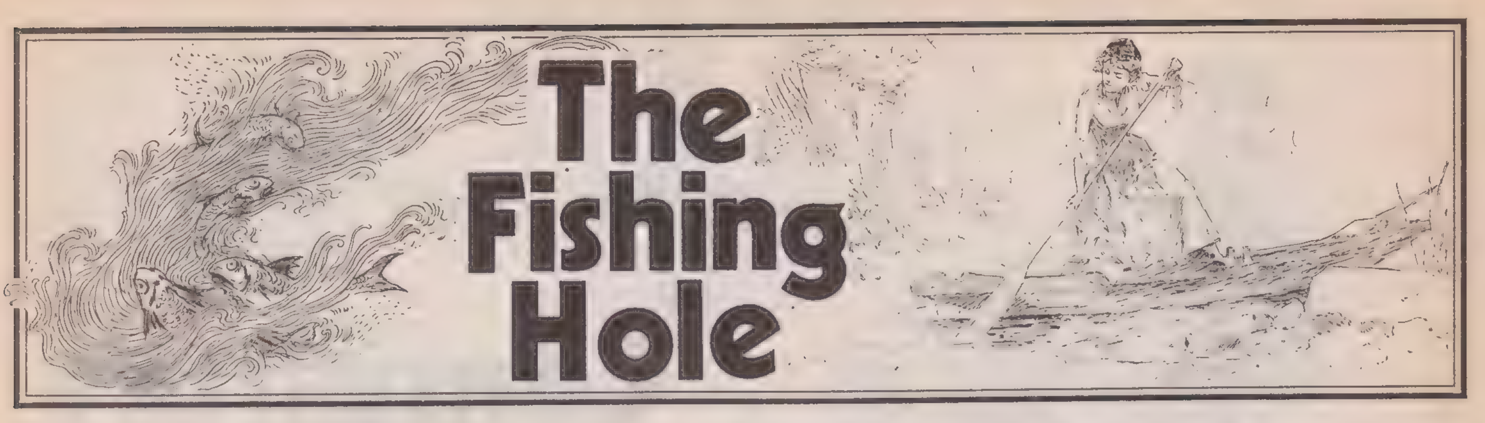
Naturally, I want my book about the conversations with Brother-in-Law published—otherwise I'd not be printing it myself in condensed form, a page at a time, in **SPARE CHANGE**. I have to argue all the time that there also needs to be a principled opposition to land monopoly, and in particular an exposure of the Huntsville-Havana Pact.

Everyone is always trying to convince me that all three are not possible—although they would be if he 1st Amendment weren't against the laws of the invisible state that rules us.

They are always trying to maneuver me into one or another position that sanctions racism—such as support for Landlordism or of secrecy regarding the origins of the Indochina War, as if I had to pick one or the other.

★★★★★

[Æditor's note: previous installments of this work have appeared in FF 33, 34 and 35.]



The Fishing Hole

by Joe "Kingfish" Lane

"So what's your worst hassle been in publishing?"

I asked that question some months back and pretty much the small press community has been quiet about it. Most of what I am writing about in this column has been found second hand through the papers themselves although a few publishers have actually called or written about their hassles. So enough of the general opening garbage, here is what I have been able to dig up.

First up is the case of Tim Beeney, and his paper **THE RAG**, in Peoria, Illinois. Beeney was recently interviewed by a Peoria High School newspaper, **THE OPINION**. After the school had 1,000 copies of the **OPINION** with the interview included printed it decided not to release them to students. It seems that an employee of the company that printed the school's newspaper, P & P Press, told the principal of the school that she was offended that such a publication would be discussed in a high school newspaper and that she didn't want to have her children exposed to such material. The woman was Shirley Spencer, and she claimed that she didn't want her "child exposed to extremist material" and that kids today have enough problems in this world (like parents who won't give them any responsibility of the real world).

As Tim put it, the **RAG**'s first tabloid edition was printed by P&P Press after which he was asked not to return. Now Tim must travel over 50 miles to get his paper printed. The **RAG** offered to let Mrs. Spencer and the principal, Richard Greene, respond in print, but both failed so far to take Tim up on the proposition. Tim's plan was to take copies of the newest **RAG** and hand them to students entering school property. It includes the banned story from the **OPINION** as well as editorials about the situation from the daily **JOURNAL-STAR** of Peoria.

Second up, and I'm sure few will care if this alternative college newspaper bites the dust, is the **CAMPUS REVIEW** in Iowa City. The **CAMPUS REVIEW** has been operating for about five years now and has a staunch conservative-Republican base. Though it has been parodying gays and radicals in general and Ted Kennedy in particular, its general focus seems to be that anybody else but conservatives can get student funding and they are not happy about it. Editor Jeff Renander said that the paper has had its share of hassles. Nothing as close to having its distribution van firebombed though an office window has been broken out twice by bricks. He added that in the past his staff has been threatened with arrest for distribution to dorms. Two writers at the paper were sued (both were successfully defended), a female writer had her face bloodied by students who claimed she was trying to get their group's student funding removed, and the faculty adviser has been threatened with physical harm at least one time. The **REVIEW** is the closest thing to being a national alternative student newspaper as only 9,000 of the 20,000 copies printed are distributed on campus. The rest go to supporters around the country. I do admit that I subscribe, due mainly to the fact that their light heartedness to highly important matters is as funny as their extreme seriousness to matters totally unimportant.

Third, and this time the victim of the printer, is Kurt Saxon and **THE SURVIVOR** (the zine devoted to the final downfall of civilization and what we can do to "survive" it). Saxon, he of the missing fingers and exploding kitchen, has several publications including books called the **POOR MAN'S JAMES BOND** and collected books of **THE SURVIVOR**. Last year while having some of the books reprinted, Saxon discovered that the printer was printing up extra copies of the books and selling them to other book distributors. According to Saxon, he has had a cut of 80 percent of his business. He hopes, though, to have his own printing company as soon as the lawsuit is over.

Fourth is the **LAME MONKEY MANIFESTO** in Knoxville, Tennessee. The **MONKEY** editor at the time, Ian Blackburn, was informed in May 1989 that after some two years of printing the tabloid, Alliance Christian Press no longer wanted to see it on its printing press again. Matt Edwards,the president of Alliance, said that the general wording and content could no longer be tolerated. So Ian struck back, using an exact duplicate of the format of page layout used in the letter and a variation of the wording and told Alliance that the **MONKEY** would no longer be printed at their company due to "the general oafish nonsense we have been subjected to and the uncertainty of whether you see yourself as a printer or a censorer."

Fifth, New York's **SHADOW**. The **SHADOW** was started after the Tompkins Square Park riot in New York and has been sort of the torch bearer for news that editor Chris Flash feels isn't getting out. The idea is to print "anything on anybody" involved in corruption, news you can use "as long as it's all true" Flash said. Started in March 1989, the **SHADOW** quickly became embroiled in a controversy with the yuppie weekly in New York, the **NEW YORK PRESS**. According to an article in issue 2 of the **SHADOW** distributors of the **PRESS** were picking up copies of the **SHADOW** and other free papers and throwing them away after they dropped off copies of the **PRESS**. Disgusted with this the **SHADOW** announced that it would start picking up copies of the **PRESS** and take them to the recycling center and encouraged many to do so. Although Chris recently said that he had experienced little repression he did get arrested for, get this, covering a police raid on the homeless in Tompkins Square Park last December. Because he had forgotten his I.D. Chris was put through through the system as he put it for 36 hours because the police refuse to admit they knew his identity. Also arrested were three photographers, another **SHADOW** writer and the editor of the **PENUMBRA**, the parody paper that started up in response to the **SHADOW**. That and the fact some newsstands refuse to carry **SHADOW** seems to be the extent of the problems that Chris has faced so far. Most of the above people I spoke of I have either interviewed in person or have contacted by phone and continue to travel and meet. In case your paper is within 250 miles of Terre Haute and would like to rap on the state of affairs of the small press contact me at: Joe Lane P.O. Box 4083 Terre Haute, IN 47804.

Needless to say that I am sure there are countless other papers that have experienced more harsh problems than these though I would not belittle any of those discussed as they are enough to make one consider a change of preoccupation.

Something that has bothered me lately is the high cost of printing. I have personally heard of a publisher paying up to $300 to get 1,500 copies printed of a 16 page tabloid and another paying 15-20 cents a copy to print 16-24 page papers with a press run of 4,000-6,000. When I did a biweekly paper it cost $560 to get 5,000 copies of a 16 page out, with two colors (a waste of ink) and 30 photos. And I thought that was expensive. The costs for the papers mentioned above run no color and few photographs (compared to my figures). And most of these people have troubles finding people willing to print their papers. So if you know of any printer willing to print "undergrounds", "radical literature", and whatever else paranoids call us today, then write me their prices and addresses and I'll pass them along. Also I am going to start a feature on whatever happened to the founding fathers of the underground press so if you know of any addresses of people willing to be interviewed, I'd appreciate it. Also of personal interest is the final date and/or reason for the demise of the Alternative Press Syndicate. First correct response (must include some sort of verification, such as a photocopy of a news article) will receive one of the last copies of the booklet I wrote called **STALKING THE WILD READER IN RIVER CITY** that was reviewed some months back. After a short trial run I decided to rewrite it and it will soon (or later) be out as a **FACTSHEET FIVE** booklet from Mr. Mike. (Æditor's Note: I don't usually interrupt my columnists, but I do want to say that I personally *will* care of **CAMPUS RAG** goes out of business, much as I disagree with some of their editorial positions. Free speech is for all of us. Also, on the subject of good printers for the alternative and underground press, I recommend my own printer, World Printing, whose ads you will find in this issue of FF.)

Paid Advertisement

DRUMMER BOY:
Henry Hilton Wood and the Civil War
Collected and edited by Mary Wallitt De Young
De Young Press, Spencer, Iowa

Review by Alan Rickard - Katoomba, Australia

This is a most attractive book. It is one of those volumes one occasionally comes across that are attractive in appearance, well designed and pleasant to handle. In every respect it is a nice production.

But it is more than this. It is a thorough and thoroughly researched account of the American Civil War, drawn by Mary De Young from various sources and particularly from the autobiography of her ancestor Henry Hilton Wood, a drummer and soldier in the Union Army.

As Mrs. De Young notes in the preface, it is a book about voices, including the voice of Abe Lincoln, conveyed in letters and telegrams, and poets with their stirring calls to the cause of freedom from slavery, and underlying factor of the conflict. But more than this it is the story of a man who served throughout the four years of hardship and death before returning to his farm.

I read the book as someone from a country that has not known civil war, though it has come close to it on several occasions and has seen several armed minority insurrections against injustice. A country nevertheless that, in spite of the self-centredness of the modern age, is basically in sympathy with the best of American values and thus able to relate to the basic principles of the Union. A country familiar to an extent with some of the best of American heroic poetry of those times, which has often been taught in Australian schools - in particular with Longfellow's "Paul Revere's Ride" and Whittier's "Barbara Fritchie", not to mention "The Battle Hymn of the Republic".

With numerous maps and text illustrations, **Drummer Boy** presents a graphic account of the war in all its heroism and all its suffering. It would be difficult to imagine anyone reading it without coming to a sympathetic understanding of causes and realities.

It is fitting that the final pages convey the words of Colonel Robert INgersoll, surely one of the noblest spirits of America then and now.

In summary, this is an excellent publication and a considerable credit to the careful and painstaking work of Mary Wallitt De Young, as well as to the quality publications of the De Young Press.

YES DEAR READERS, ST.PAUL'S ANCESTOR...WAS A GIBIONITE SLAVE(SEE APPENDIX)GIVEN A DEAL TO FATHER A NEW TRIBE OF BENJAMIN..BY A JEWESS!!

SAINT PAUL'S ® GAY HERITAGE?

-REED N.TELL

MAY NOT BE JEWISH!

THE BIBLE-BOOK OF JUDGES CHAPTERS,19,20,21, WITH ROMANS,11:1 & HOSEA,10:9(K.J.VERSION), BRINGS TO LIGHT;ST.PAUL'S TRUE...HERITAGE!!

MARK OF THE BEAST
(REVELATION, 20:4)
AND THEY SAID I COULDN'T FLY!
REED'N TELL
ST PAUL'S GAY HERITAGE

THIS BIBLE-VERSE EXPOSE' OF SAINT PAUL'S VILE HERITAGE(JUDGES,19:22) IS OVERLOOKED BY CHRISTIAN SCHOLARS BECAUSE SAINT PAUL,FOUNDER OF CHRISTIANITY TAUGHT MOSES' LAW BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT,CURSED THEM(GALATIANS,3:13)(ROMANS,3:7).

-REED N.TELL
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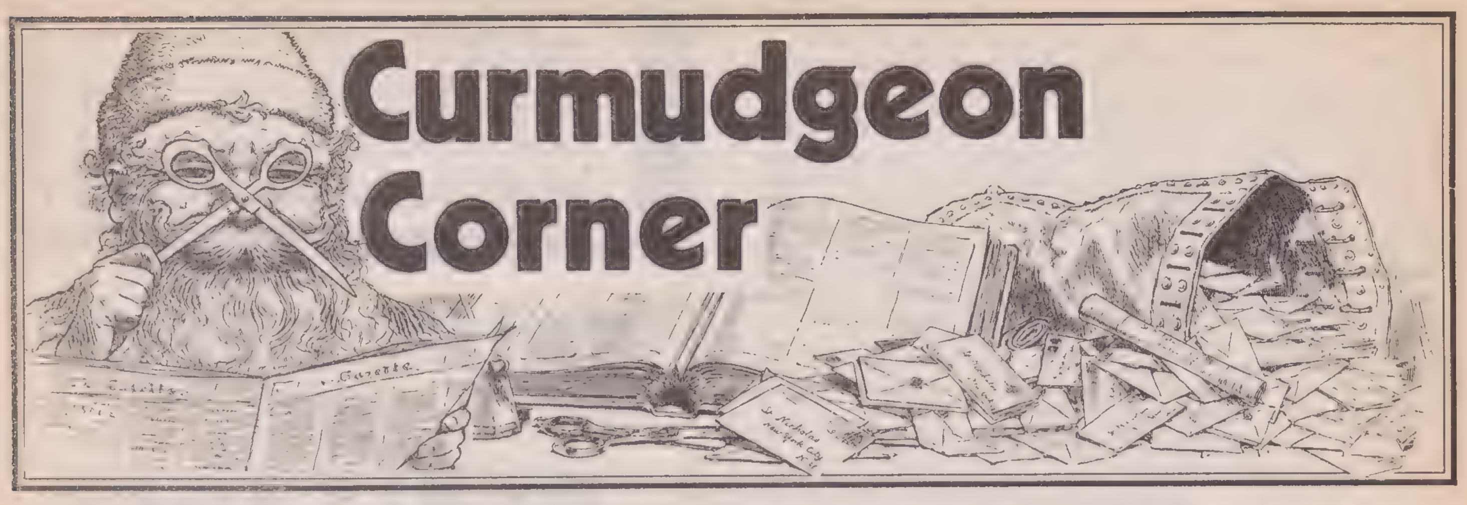
Curmudgeon Corner



by Garry De Young

All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players.
—Shakespeare
True

And how am I to face the odds of man's bedevilment to God's? I, a stranger and afraid In a world I never made.
—Housman
True

When the Great Scorer comes to write against your name — He marks—not that you won or lost — but how you play the game.
—Grantland Rice
True

This above all,—to thine own self be true; And it must follow, as the night the day, Thou canst not then be false to any man.
—Shakespeare
True

Poets are truthseekers and the challengers to fop and falsehood. This is why they are considered so dangerous.

I am, first and foremost, a poet, a reader of poetry and a writer of poetry. But most important, I do the things true poets always do, bring into focus the ills in our society.

In trying to enhance the betterment of man one might wonder if I am tired, if I have reached the breaking point of compromise.

The answer is a resounding NO! In fact, as with John Paul Jones, I have just begun to fight and all of these bitter experiences have made me stronger by far than any of my adversaries, both those in and out of government, both those who declare themselves to be my enemies and those who betray me through the back door, gravely underestimating me and falsely assuming that I don't know what they are doing. Such is the poetry of life.

Recently my brother Walt asked me how I could be so naive as to even begin to think that justice could be gained through our American legal system.

I explained to him that my fine old German grandmother always used to tell me stories as a child where good always triumphed over evil. My father also used to tell us those same kinds of stories as a child when we were children, a practice few fathers are permitted to engage in today because of the fear of being charged with child abuse.

Many times in the past I have had people tell me that I am a deeply religious person because of my belief that good will eventually triumph and if this be my religion it would be similar to that of Thomas Paine who died a pauper buried on a farm in New York State, his grave site unknown today.

One would pose the question, "Well, didn't Tom Paine die in vain? Didn't evil triumph for him?"

Not so, because Tom Paine lives today in me and in others who have embraced his ideas and his commitment to fight against evil. It concerns what life is all about.

Think about it for a moment. We all have pondered about the big questions such as how we got here and what is the purpose of life, the big "Why?"

But does it really make much difference? Isn't the easiest road to take to admit that these big questions are beyond us and that so long as we *are* here and our children will be here, that life will be much easier for everyone if we are honest and above board and all of us work, individually or together, to ensure that justice prevails? What better to do with one's life except perhaps to simply enjoy the bounty which exists?

But as we look about us we see that this bounty is not available to everyone. We see greed, distrust, thievery by the wealthy and the powerful from the poor, we see disease and much unhappiness and pain from many causes. Why not, I ask, devote one's life to helping eliminate some of that pain and unhappiness?

Oh, it would be wonderful if someone, some group, were to offer their hand to me and tell me I was just the person they wanted. It would be a delight beyond all of my expectations to have some university invite me to speak and actually offer to pay me money for my time and for my wisdom. But apparently this is not to be—so I continue traveling alone and seeing others take the accolades and honors which rightfully belong to me.

On May 10th I turned sixty-seven years old but I feel the same as I did when I was eighteen or thirty-five. I know that Henry Charles Lea learned German at the age of 60 and Dutch at the age of 80 so that he could read the original documents for his **HISTORY OF THE INQUISITION.** So I know, although I have diabetes, have had six bypasses and am losing my eyesight that I am not too old to learn and continue studying I will, be it in or out of a university and in all honesty I must tell you that most university professors have little experience in life but have been professional schoolboys giving honors to each other.

The big breakthroughs in life are not made by these university types. They are made by the people out in the trenches, out on the line, people such as me who have fought all of these legal battles—while these same professors now discuss these matters in their classrooms on a vicarious basis, excluding people like me from their ranks.

It is the same with my brother Walt, a union organizer for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union for years and years—and yet he can't teach about labor unions in a college or university because he doesn't have the "college credits" in this field.

When I apply for admission to a college I am asked to *first* pay the twenty dollar admission fee. *This* is the most important thing, not who I am or what I have to offer.

Next I am asked to present my college transcripts. Do you know what this means for a man who has completed work through nine different colleges and universities? It means having to write to all of these colleges and sending them their three dollar transcript fee, which is not only expensive but a lot of work.

And then they want references. And of course those professors who could testify on my behalf are now dead and the other recommendations I provide are not the academic types they respect. So I come across as some sort of impostor.

But the transcripts are a joke anyway, as are the letters or recommendation—after all,m who would ask a known enemy to provide a letter in his behalf, and of what value are transcripts from thirty-some years ago? They tell nothing about who I am today and they don't indicate the many battles I have fought, which should have been fought by those passing judgment on me.

Here in Iowa we have courses at local colleges for "senior citizens"—these are courses in making bedspreads and other crafts but are not degree courses of value and significance.

Here in Iowa we also have the charade of a Senior Citizen Legislature where they let the old fogies play the game of "Legislator for a Day" just as they do with elementary school kids. How insulting can you get?

Then there is the local newspaper for senior citizens titled **THE ADVOCATE** filled, of course, with all kinds of pharmacists, medical supply specialists, insurance companies with old age policies, that sort of thing. Trash!

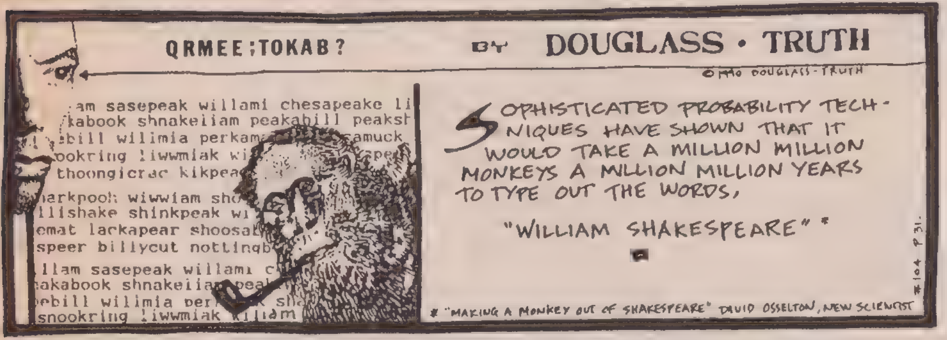
Living in Iowa is living a slow death. It is also at the same time a screaming death because if you do retire in Iowa and want to move out of state you still have to pay taxes to Iowa on that retirement income.

I am a writer. My wife Mary is a writer. Both of us came here, from the East, thanks to the fates. Yet neither of us can be listed as Iowa authors because we were not born in Iowa and haven't lived here for twenty years. That would be a horrible sentence for anyone.

Iowa is the police state supreme. It is the state where if you aren't wearing as seat belt the social workers will see to it that you are put into jail and your children are taken from you and put into a foster home. Tell me, what could be more devastating than that?

Iowa is the place where your children are harassed because they don't go to the local church and are then subjected to the criminal-creation of the Iowa courts.

Am I bitter about this? No, not bitter. I am, keep in mind, an educator by training and my role is to bring to the larger classroom of my readers the sad state of affairs in this backward place called Iowa.


QRMEE;TOKAB?
BY DOUGLASS • TRUTH
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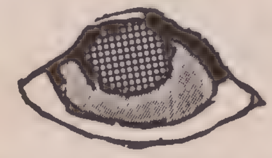
SOPHISTICATED PROBABILITY TECHNIQUES HAVE SHOWN THAT IT WOULD TAKE A MILLION MILLION MONKEYS A MILLION MILLION YEARS TO TYPE OUT THE WORDS,
"WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE" *
#104 P 31.
* "MAKING A MONKEY OUT OF SHAKESPEARE" DAVID OSSELTON, NEW SCIENTIST

The Blink of an Eye
Ruth Jespersen



Ruth Jespersen describes **The Blink of an Eye** as autobiographical fiction and defines its theme as redemption through creativity. The complexities of its storyline (wandering through three continents and two centuries — or is that two continents and three centuries) and structure (it is just a telephone call between two old friends) defy description but are set out in vivid language, exquisitely crafted; in short, it breathes.

Printed on off-white, vellum-finish 70-lb. acid-free book paper in black ink, the book contains 438, 5½x8½-in. pages of text. The first printing of 1030 copies has been smyth-sewn and case-bound in cloth covers. Single copies are $29.95 from

Mother of Ashes Press
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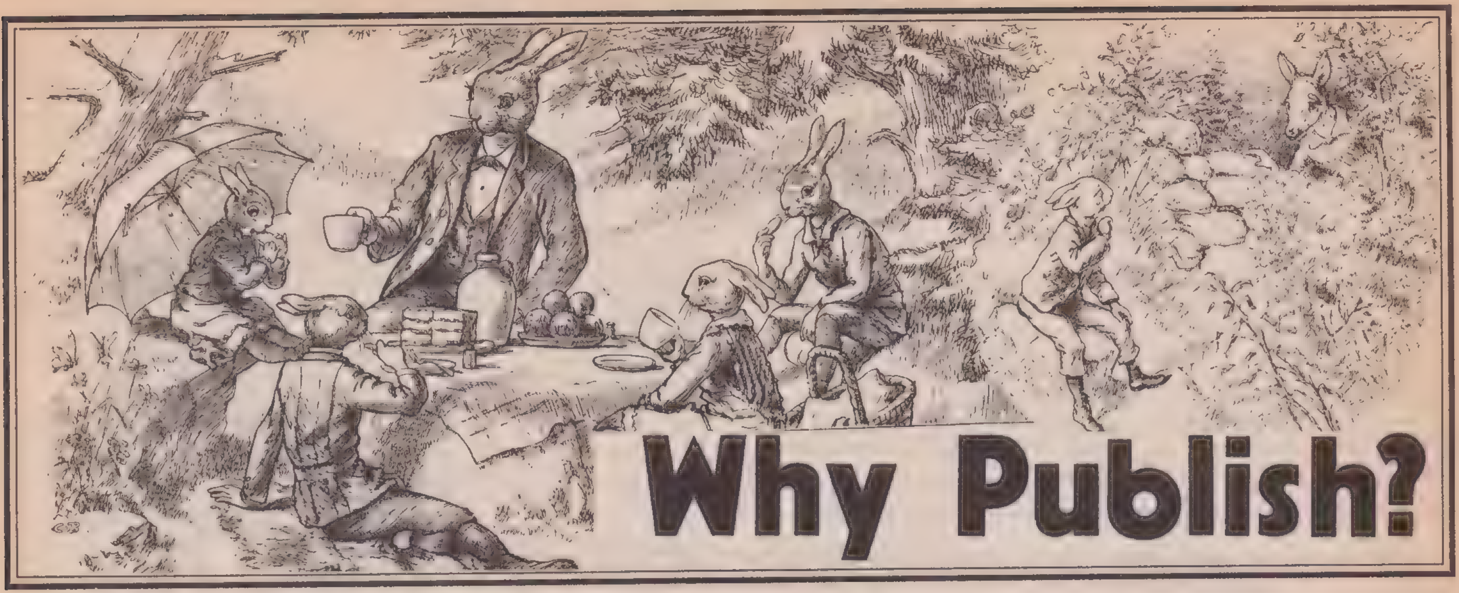
Harrison Idaho 83833-0135



Why Publish?

"One publishes to find comrades"
—Andre Breton
(submitted by Ed McIlvance)

★★★★★

Crash Rats, **DECONTROL:**

Why publish? Well, as my friend Sean put it so eloquently, all zines are born of one thing—boredom. Without a doubt that's how my own, **DECONTROL**, started. I was fourteen, really bored of hanging around my room, and looking for a way to contribute to the punk scene. I had only seen two zines before in my life, and I wasn't even sure that's what they were. Anyway, I found out that zining was a great way to get in shows free (well, I could get in free but I couldn't get there!), meet cool people and get freebies in the mail, although it seems all my freebies are art-fag stuff (I'll bet the art-fag zines get all the punk records!). Being much more mature now—I'm fifteen—I realize how cool it is that my work, while not exactly critically acclaimed, can hold its own with that of older, more experienced and better equipped (like with a car and a staff of more than one) people. It's quite a kick.

★★★★★

Chris O'Brien, **MINDLESS CONFUSION:**

Question authority. That's why I publish. **MINDLESS CONFUSION** is meant to be an open forum for questioning everything we see, hear, teach and accept. The name is perfect for describing my state of mind and attitude toward everything. Everything is so complex and confusing in life. This doesn't imply that there is no meaning. It doesn't imply that there is meaning, either. One may say that the name is defeatist or pessimistic. Au contraire, mon frere. It is neither. It is just an observation of the seeming mindlessness of questioning itself. One can try to understand all aspects of an issue and still come to the conclusion that he is still confused. What do you do in a catch 22 situation? It's mindless confusion.

For example, one may believe in the idea that no man is an island. Indeed, no man is completely an island because everyone socializes to some extent. However, one may also hold credence in the idea that every man is an island. This can be true also, because in some aspect or another everyone is unique and can;t convey precisely the way they feel about something in particular. In this aspect every man is an island, with his own thoughts, emotions, and interpretations. How, then, can two opposite statement both be true at the same time? It's mindless confusion.

Just in rationalizing the name one can come to the conclusion that it is appropriate. I could say that the ultimate goal in anyone's life is to search for order. This seems to contradict the idea of mindless confusion. If you have a goal, to find some meaning in everything, the path to that goal is not mindless because you have a direction. On the other hand, I have a goal to find meaning, too. That goal, however, is not achieved by following a path. It is achieved by reacting on instinct to what I feel inside. These types of feelings can't be rationalized. If they are, they are only that, rationalizations of something inexplicable. If they aren't logical or rational then they are mindless. And when you look at that idea it becomes very confusing.

The name also embraces the mainstream idea that people who question authority are mindlessly confused. They need to be set straight by society and should stop causing so many problems. Why can't they just be obedient and stop coming up with crazy, mindlessly confused ideas.

When you take a perspective that encompasses the overall view of the universe one can really start relating to the idea of mindless confusion. If the world is infinite then we can't scientifically explain it because infinity isn't logical. It would be more logical then to assume that the universe is closed. Actually that would be just as ridiculous because then we can't explain what is beyond the universe. Now, just talking about this could be irrelevant because none of this affects any of our day to day lives. One could, however, have the opinion that it does affect our day to day lives in the biggest way. One may say that if we search for understanding of the universe than we will eventually achieve all truth and knowledge. However, someone else may not be of this opinion. Why? Because everyone has different, irrational tendencies to believe in different ideas. Our beliefs are founded in nothing but our own instinct, Rationalization of beliefs comes later. So there is no real logical explanation of why people hold different opinions. It's just Mindless Condusion.

★★★★★

Gerald L. Sprouse, **SUNSHINE PUBLICATIONS:**

Why do I publish pamphlets? Not to make any money and not to reach a lot of readers—that is for sure! So why would someone continue with such a project is neither of the usual motivations behind publishing are being accomplished? I must be an egomaniac or some kind of mindless zealot, right? Well, not hardly! Then why is it that I continue to pursue this uneconomical and unproductive form of attempted communication? The answer is really quite simple, although quite alien to the common mode of thinking.

There is much that mankind needs desperately to learn but has been prevented from learning because its collective mind has been under the total domination of what the Germans call the *zeitgeist* for all of recorded history. The word *zeitgeist* (spirit of the times) has been used by scholars to refer to that familiar phenomenon whereby mankind collectively adheres to a common mode of thinking concerning the nature of reality, and ostracizes and ridicules any and all persons who dare challenge their commonly-held beliefs. Never mind that only a short time ago the zeitgeist held that the world was flat; the power of the zeitgeist has not been weakened, nor has its policy of obstruction against anyone who would step out of the prescribed mold and attempt to broaden mankind's horizons been accorded any more rationality. We live in the Space Age with the mentality of the Stone Age.

Only most recently has any substantial number of people begun to realize that we have the technology to do great harm to our environment but not the knowledge needed to know how to refrain from this suicidal course which we find ourselves on. We can no longer afford the zeitgeist which got us into this predicament! We can no longer presume that authorities know what is best for us, nor that anything which they tell us is the truth. We must ascertain the truth for ourselves, and find ways of forcing government and industry to follow sane courses of action. But the first thing that we need is education. No, I don't mean that old memorization and regurgitation of ritually fed propaganda indoctrination dogma, but rather, real learning. We need to open ourselves up to all forms of learning, and to heck with what the zeitgeist says! It is time to break free of the zeitgeist and learn enough to be sufficiently wise to safely deal with our own technology and those who presently control it.

It is the purpose of my pamphlet publishing efforts to provide as much of these extra-zeitgeist learning materials as possible, even if few so far have elected to receive them, and even if fewer still understand my reasons for distributing them.

★★★★★

Mark Robinson, SCRATCH:

Way back, in the dark deep forest of motives called youth, (I now live in its suburbs) I had my life changed by an art movement that mainly consisted of shouting, spitting, hitting guitars and drums as hard as you could as loud as you could, and generally stepping outside the worlds of family and school. Even if I carried on loving my parents and passing my exams, from then on I knew I had been changed. But for it, I would literally be a different person than I am today. I don't know if it was merely the sound, or the poetry I later came to find hidden beneath the feedback, but I was caught, and have never really recovered. (But that, as they say, is another story).

Over the years, the poetry took over from the guitars. They had opened a door into the big room of history—names and movements dropped in interviews and articles were followed up and—THUS!—there they were, my ancestors. The names are obvious an almost beside the point. And from reading, followed writing.

Then one night on a coach back from seeing a Shakespeare play we were studying at school I learnt—I can't remember how the talk turned to it—that I wasn't alone in my scribbling, my newly-discovered ancestry. By no coincidence one of my earliest punk compatriots read the same things I did, also wrote poetry.

After that, things progressed as these things always do. The endless discussions, swapping poems, name-dropping and one-upmanship, posing at parties reading alternative pages of Dylan Thomas to each other in the garden. Thinking we'd overdone it, the next day. You know the kind of thing. All this alongside our guitar and drum bashing activity. Poetry was an everyday part of our lives. And then we grew up, a little.

And as we grew up, we grew apart, geographically at the very least, and despite becoming slowly but surely immersed in the world of small press poetry—writing, submitting, being published more often—a few feelings eventually combined with my circumstances and cultural history, whose main message continues to be: THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION ARE YOURS, YOU CAN DO IT FOR YOURSELF, to lead to my setting up SCRATCH. Those feelings included:

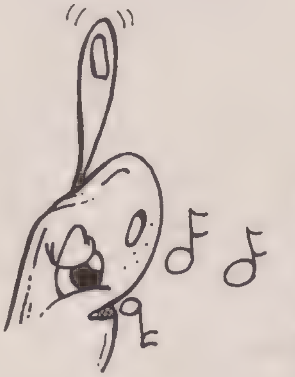
(i) A growing frustration at the "cosies", magazines full of boring, half-baked verse that simply didn't matter.

(ii) A desire to get in contact with a wider circle of writers and editors in order to exchange ideas and views, to feel part of some sort of artistic community again.

(iii) A desire to give a platform to writing that defied the little England approach of the cosies and wasn't crippled by lack of ambition. So many magazines seemed to see poetry as either the property of an elite or a mere pastime, fuzzy-felt for pretentious grown-ups. To me, it was still what it had been when I was sixteen: the most potent way of exposing the big threat, Unreality; of expressing a growing anger at the spiritual and physical state of Britain; of preserving the beauties that justified my anger, of illustrating the boundless possibilities within people.

(iv) The familiar feeling of "If not me, who?", my cultural heritage of Literature and indie labels and fanzines allied with an old saying of my mother's: *"If you want a job done properly, do it yourself."*

I suppose all those frustrations and desires add up to wanting to SPREAD THE WORD, in the belief that if you don't spread the word, it dies, and once the word dies, you're really screwed. As one of my touchstone quotes, from Polish poet Tadeus Rosewicsz, puts it: "modern poetry is a struggle for breath". So if SCRATCH lets just a little more air in, then it's working.



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Audio Reviews

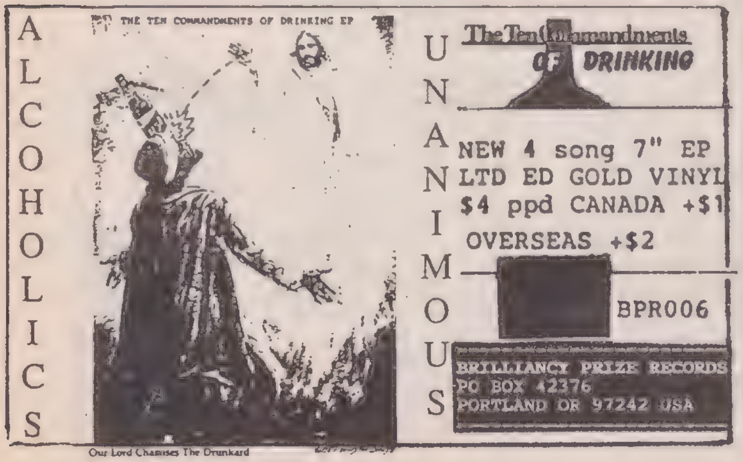
Reviews are by Karin Falcone (KF), Tom Gogola (TG), The Æditor (MG), William Meckley (WM), Jay Mentes (JCM), Cris Rowles (CER), Kyle Silfer (KS), Dina Williams (DW), and Phil Zampino (PMZ). As usual, a few reviewers missed the deadline; if you're wondering what happened to your release, feel free to give me a call.

And now a word for all of you eager music producers out there: *PUT YOUR ADDRESS ON THE ALBUM OR TAPE!* It's not enough to have it on the promo material, and definitely not enough to have it on the envelope. The former gets separated from the tape during the mail-logging process, and the latter goes straight into the dumpster. Every issue I throw at least three or four tapes into the Zine Exchange box simply because I have no idea where they came from. Don't let this happen to you!

16-17, "When All Else Fails" (DM.20 from Vision, PO Box 568, CH-4005 Basel, Switzerland) Thrash jazz/rock from this Swiss trio, playing sax, guitar and drums, along with electronics, electronically disguised sax, guitar controlled electronics, and electric rattle. Relentless beats, squealing saxophone, broken guitar bits, pulsing bass lines and fractured vocals fuel this sonic chaos that only rests long enough to gather strength for its next assault. The material is from a 1988 live show in Basel, treated for optimum vinyl violence as was 'musically necessary.' With a prior lp on Recommended Records, this current is distributed by Rec Rec. (LP/PMZ)

2 CAR FAMILY, "Now 'n' Then" ($7 from Pig Dog Records, PO Box 3603, Lawrence, KS 66046): Somewhere along the line since the last time I listened to them, this band picked up a spark, and now they're pretty solid purveyors of fast-paced rootsy gutsy rock. This is 2 LPs on one tape, with the first ("Outside of a Mile") showing well the talents of percussionist Stacy Hoobler while the second ("A Step Above") takes the band to a harder plateau of evolution. Intelligent lyrics are a plus here too, but it's the tight rock playing that makes them succeed.(T/MG)

THE 4 OF US, "Songs For The Tempted" (Columbia Records, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): Idiosyncratic rock by a bunch of young Irishmen. There are very poppy overtones here, and songs about everything from love to the need to stop the violence in Ireland. The sound features a lot of keyboards and a playfulness reflected in the trading of parts between the various players unexpectedly. Good new mainstream music. (T/MG)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ABDOMEN OF HYPNOSIS, "Web of Lamb" (Dormant Utopia Records, 7647 S. Pierce Way, Littleton, CO 80123): Synthexperimental music that employs everything from found sounds to oscillators to rhythmic chanting. Jagged-edged sound pictures, often harsh, occasionally breathtaking, generally innovative. There is a definite aesthetic developing here that one does not find in many experimental noise tapes. (T/MG)

THE AERIAL #1 ($8 on tape or $12 on CD from Nonsequitir Foundation, PO Box 15118, Santa Fe, NM 87506): A "journal in sound" featuring improvisational and vocal works and sound sculptures, as well as more traditional-seeming songs. Contributors to this first issue include Bern Porter, Richard Kostelanetz, Floating Concrete Octopus and Malcolm Goldstein. The production is excellent, and the accompanying booklet gives each artist the chance to explain a bit about their work. A fine exploration of the many possible worlds of sound construction. (T/MG)

AFGHAN WHIGS, "Up In It" ($8.00 from Sub Pop Records, PO Box 20645, Seattle, WA 98102) From the hard rocking world of Sub Pop Records comes a full length lp by the band that gave us one of Sub Pop's best singles last year. The power behind this Cincinatti band—strong riffs, high-energy playing, and the cool detachment or scorching urgency of the vocals—combine to create a set of tremendous songs. Great new version of "White Trash Party," sits along with new darkly implying songs like "Retarded" or "I Know Your Little Secret." Dinosaur fans take note. (LP/PMZ)

AGITATORS, "It's About Time" (Clint Phillips, 805 Burleson St., Grand Prairie, TX 75050): Punk party music with just the faintest Texas country twang hiding in it. Their final song on this demo, "D.S.G." dismisses the entire 70's as the era of disco skating, which may be a fitting eulogy, while "She-Male" is about women who can hold their own in the pit...I think. Upbeat, fast, and a bit silly. (T/MG)

ALCOHOLICS UNANIMOUS, "The Ten Commandments of Drinking" (Brilliancy Prize Records, PO Box 42376, Portland, OR 97242): As the title suggests, this is a salute to the spiritual benefits of prolonged alcohol abuse, with songs like "Drinking Saved My Life," "Thunderbird," and a familiar-sounding "Drinkin' in the Mens Room." It's political too, on "Hell to Pay," a rant about "troops recruited from Cable TV" and "Ziplocs against the law." Musically, it's juicedup grungecore with a shot of the Dead Kennedys—and a cover illustration by Winston Smith—also in the brew. (EP/TG)

G.G. ALLIN, "Doctrine of Mayhem" ($6 from PO Box 704, Oak Lawn, IL 60454): A collection of work spanning much of GG's career, such as it is. Perhaps the best part here is the early acoustic recordings, including the almost touching "Darkness and a Bottle to Hold". The rendition of "Sluts in the City", backed up by the original Cedar Street Sluts, is also pretty good. But much of the later

ScumFucks material seems muddy, although songs like "I Wanna Piss On You" are certainly the quintessential GG. (LP/MG)

G.G. ALLIN, "Suicide Sessions" ($6 from PO Box 704, Oak Lawn, IL 60454): This is not one of the better G.G. tapes that I have heard. There's more screaming and less lyrics than ever, and the backing band could have been replaced by a couple of kids banging on pots and pans. All in all, even if you're a G.G. fan you'll want to avoid this, unless for the historical interest involved in it. (T/MG)

ALPTRAUM GmbH, "Create Confusion" ($3 ppd from Martin Pick, Postfach 10 08 12, 5600 Wuppertal 1, WEST GERMANY): A four-song German punk record. There's a bit of screaming here, some vocals that are spat rather than sung, and a dark, murky, intertwined sound. Suitable for lonely nights, preferably with thunder as an accompaniment. (45/MG)

STEVE AMICK AND HIS OWN WORST ENEMIES, "Your Mother"/"Dead Horse" (Ratman Records, 4484 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48104): Rootsy yet subtle acoustic guitar-based rock in the Jonathan Richman vein. But Amick's compositions are the antithesis of Richman's benevolent, innocent childishness: "Your Mother" is about killing and stuffing his girlfriend or wife's mother; and "Dead Horse" is about the frustration of male/female relationships. Acoustic rock for the not-so-naive. (45/DW)

A.M.L.I., five PSAs (Eleutheros Productions, PO Box 141, Bearsville, NY 12409): These Public Service Announcements from the Anonymous Movement for the Liberation of Imagination are available free to any radio station that will play them; individuals are asked to send money to cover production costs if they want a copy. AMLI promotes a sort of modern celebratory Luddite nihilism, calling for an end to the regimes that control us and a step forward to a funner future. Video versions are in the works as well, and TV stations are invited to request them. (T/MG)

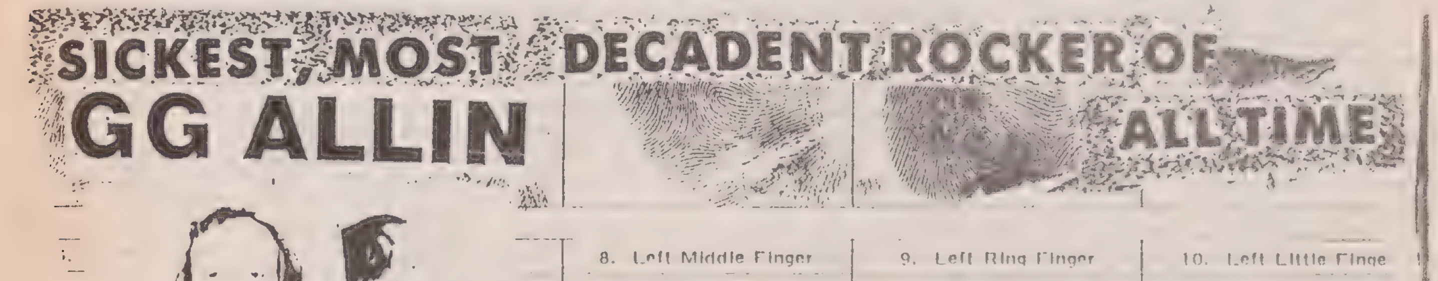
ANALY RETENTIVE CITIZENS FOR A BETTER AMERICA, "Randal Fairy" (Monsterbation Records, 249-2 Edwards St., Binghamton, NY 13901): A tape EP with five songs suited for low-budget monster movie soundtracks. There's a lot of minor-key playing, vocals that are not precisely polished, and percussive banging around here, along with sound quality that's not the greatest. They have spunk, but they're going to need more than that. (T/MG)

ANGELS OF EPISTEMOLOGY, self-titled ($3.50 from Merge Records, PO Box 1235, Chapel Hill, NC 27514): A somewhat deranged album that ends with the out of context question "How can you get a hard-on without chocolate sauce?" Close thickets of plinking twinking guitars, obscure vocals and a sideways way of writing lyrics combine to make this an intriguing and difficult band. Too bad they broke up, but at least they left this six-song 7" behind. (EP/MG)

ANGKOR WAT, "Corpus Christi" (Metal Blade Records, 18653 Ventura Blvd. #311, Tarzana, CA 91356): Heavy-punch hardcore (with some metal influence) with a stripped down feel but still plenty of guitar work. They chew up a bunch of originals, plus a cover of "Barracuda", and spit them all out without compromise. Adam Grossman's raw throat vocals carry the day, making this music to be reckoned with. (T/MG)

ANTIETAM, "Burgoo" (Triple X Records, 6715 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 284, Hollywood, CA 90028): A trio, Antietam's songs flow along on the solidity of the rhythm section, which is generally the entire band; very few solos here, the sound being subjugated to serve the songs. Solid bass and drums weave with clean guitar work in well paced melodic progressions that show their roots in the South West as well as their place in modern NY rock. The vocals are relaxed and expressive, supported by pleasant harmonies or deadpan voice. Even when dabbling with distortion and feedback Antietam manages to excite without screaming; a nice record for a summer afternoon. (LP/PMZ)

GLEN ARMSTRONG AND THE DIRTY CLERGY, "Bring Me The Head Of The Saxophone Player" (2951 Voorheis, Pontiac, MI 48054): A hilarious and eclectic collection of songs that cast a wide net. Great lyrics and good playing (check out the sax playing on



He appears to have a mixed personality disorder with narcissist and masochist features.

GG Allin #206045
P. O. Box 1900
Adrian, MI 49221

"Two Boptometrists"). Despite occasional lapses into cosmic nonsense most of this is terrific. The cover of the Doors' "The End" over a Tex and Edna style electronic keyboard groove is alone worth the price of admission. Nice job of recording too. (T/WM)

ART SRIKE MANTRA, "1990-1993" (PO Box 978, Hanover, NH 03755) Artstrike wants your mantra: this networking cassette, after its short mantra and description of a strategy to fight art as status and thus attain Artstrike Nirvana, provides plenty of free space for creating your own mantra, which you can then send to Artstrike for inclusion in their mantra compilation. Mock your self importance and lose your ego by participating in this mantra exchange, no matter how strange its strangled narrator sounds. I plan to. (T/PMZ)

ASHTRAY, "I Am My Own Worst Enemy" (PO Box 29115, Philadelphia, PA 19127-0115): Slightly rough-edged guitar rock anchored by the vocals and lead guitar of Joe Leifheit. "Up At the Sky" is the standout of this four-song tape, a song with undeniable vigor and a catchy riff behind it. Nice stuff. (T/MG)

ATROPHY, "Violent By Nature" (RoadRacer, 225 Lafayette St., Suite 709, NY, NY 10012): At the outset I thought I'd run across a hardcore release, although the packaging suggests heavy metal. While the occasional grunge and the Killdozer-esque vocal style imply thrash, the flash guitar work and hyper pace that dominate the tape are clearly in the metal arena. There are some good melodic solos to be found here, but much is simply technical speed soloing. Lyrics are socially concious, dealing with animal rights, violence and children, euthenasia, drug abuse, overpopulation; a suprisingly diverse set of concerns. (T/PMZ)

AUDIO THEATRE "Canterbury Cathedral" b/w "The Pilgrims" ($9 plus $4 s&h from 37 King Street, Sandwich, Kent, CT13 9BL, UK): The A side of this looks at Canterbury Cathedral, the Mother Church of Holy Trinity in England. I think perhaps this has more meaning to the English; it would nicely refresh the memories if I had any memories to refresh, but I never was able to pull the medley of history, religion and architecture into a coherent whole. The B side looks at the phenomenon of pilgrimages there, as commemorated by Chaucer and others, and is rather more successful if somewhat short. (T/MG)

AUDIO THEATRE, "The Glorious Years" ($11 plus $4 s&h from 37 King Street, Sandwich, Kent, CT13 9BL, UK): A recreation of the second world war from original sound sources (popular songs, BBC newscasts, etc.) plus narration. To get the whole war into an hour, they're of course somewhat selective, and the selection reflects the tape's origin: Operation Market Garden, for example, rates much more coverage than the Battle of the Bulge, presumably because of the former's concentration of British troops. But we've probably had enough American films slanted in the other direction anyhow. No deep analyses, just nostalgia and theater. (T/MG)

THE AWFUL TRUTH, self-titled (Metal Blade Records, 18653 Ventura Blvd. #311, Tarzana, CA 91356): Dark and eerie metal from a band which has broken up since recording but will be immortalized in this single release. They go in for intricate musical harmonies, stretched out minor-key work, wavering notes and a generally gothic sort of feel. Not overblown, more like metal for after midnight. (T/MG)

AXXIS, "Kingdom of the Night" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Axxis are a German metal band with a very clean, slick sound. This is a pretty commercial release, with "Fire And Ice" being a nice bit of rock without any strong message but with a heady tune and memorable rhythm. I don't expect too much of this band; they have the polish, but nothing to distinguish them yet. (T/MG)

BABES IN TOYLAND, "Spanking Machine" (Twin\Tone, 2541 Nicollet Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55404): Reckless garage-grunge music from Minneapolis. If you didn't look at the album cover you'd not know that the members of this band are all female—and appreciating their music doesn't require that you do know it. Kat Bjelland's screeching vocals over a bunch of guitars and pounding drums give the band a standout character, and it's more buzzsaw and beer than lace and whiskey. Takes a bit of getting used to, but after a few plays, this is one to crank up. (LP/MG)

THE BADTOWN BOYS, "Borrowed Time" (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): Remember what the Ramones sound like? Well, if you don't, just listen to "Better Forget Her", a thrash-pace three-chord rocker that does a great impression of that band circa "Road to Run". Mindless fuzzy fun. (45/MG)

B.A.L.L., "B.A.L.L. Four...Hardball" (Shimmy-Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): Coming on like the three leatherclad guys with baseball bats on the cover (Kramer, Spiegel and Fleming)m this tongue-in-cheek threat to your skull is a two-part mind-blow from a mythic music era—spawned, I guess, by heavy doses of biker music during adolescence and Kramer's particular brand of psychedelic-auteur production. Replete with crashing cymbals and wigged-out guitar, side 1, "Hardball" is self-described as "dense and continuous"—and, I would add, distinctly male, with hotrods and go-go dancers, drugs, rigs, jail, heaven and hell. Side 2 has a broader appeal as the searing aural documentation of the band's death throes: a four-part (first take?) jam, best heard at high volume. An ostentatious farewell. (T/KF)

BAMBIX, "They Even Took The Memory" ($3 ppd from Martin Pick, Postfach 10 08 12, 5600 Wuppertal 1, WEST GERMANY): Don't let the cute name and the fact that this band is three women fool you—this is aggressive, driving, punk music. De Wilde Ciccone's vocals pack a punch, and their song "They Even Took The Memory" (lyrics in English despite the band's Dutch origins) is a slap in the face tale of poverty and despair. (45/MG)

THE BARNEY LOVE TAPES, "You Don't Monitor the Rooms, Do You" b/w "A Date With INXS" (Vinyl Communications, PO Box 8623, Chula Vista, CA 92012): This contains two prank phone calls, one a call to a sleazy motel, where Barney asks the Oriental desk woman about bringin sheep into the motel. Her reaction is funny enough, but as a follow-up (rip-off is more like it) to John Trubee's "Call to a Motel," this was pathetic and annoying, which was probably part of the idea. The other call is even worse, as our hero tries to sell woman INXS tickets in return for a date. He fails, and so does this.(45/TG)

BARREN CROSS, "Rock For The King" (Medusa Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): One of the most interesting things about this Christian metal re-issue is the fact that neither the PR nor the jacket have the word "Christ" anywhere on them; guess it's not good marketing. But songs like "Give Your Life" and "He Loves You" and "Killer of the Unborn" leave little doubt about the band's intentions. The words are clear over a Judas-Priest-dense musical background, with half the CD being studio work and half a live concert with plenty of punch. (CD/MG)

BASE APES, self-titled ($1.50 from Utsjen Recordings, PO Box 134, Waynesville, MO 65583): A 6 song 7" featuring vocals by Sambone (who has a strong, punky voice) and guitar fuzz by Adamn. The music and lyrics are dark and nasty, punk angst at its most despairing of the world, and somehow this sounds a bit outdated. Some nice pulse-pounders here, though, notably the music in "Reagan in Blood". (EP/MG)

BEATNIKS FROM MARS, "Nice Planet" (190 6th Ave. (2FS), New York, NY 10013): A live recording from CBGB of a rollicking rockabilly band with citified lyrics—as with "Ballad of the Grower", about raising dope for fun and profit, not your typical mountain hollow song (or maybe it is, these days). In general this six piece keeps up a good flow of music, with some fine harmonica and slide guitar work from Larry White. A demo tape worth latching on to. (T/MG)

BEHZAD, "Myth Touch" (Touch, 13 Osward Rd., London SW17 7SS): Pre-Islamic (100 BC-500 AD) based original arrangements on tambour (three-stringed acoustic lute), daf (tamborine) and tombak (drum). I can't make out a word of what he's saying (in Arabic?) on compositions like "Myth," "Love" or "Spring," but the music and his intonation make this a beautifully ambient tape that's mysterious and exhilarating. (T/DW)

BIG SANDY & THE FLY-RITE TRIO, "Fly Right With..." (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): A period piece, with a carefully groomed early rock/rockabilly sound recorded in mono, in a basement, on "vintage tube equipment". Songs like "Missouri Gal" and "Baby You Done Gone" ring the bells of memory, but they're all original, just with the exact mannerisms of an era mostly past. (LP/MG)

BIG IF, "Big If III" (demo tapes, PO Box 382, Baltimore, MD 21203): A live rock/industrial performance that's pretty accessible compared to most of the experimentation from this label. It goes on with a tribal feeling, lots of pounding and some shouting, bass lines moving in and out, with bits of synth and sax. Raw to the extreme, energetic, pulsating, and good listening. (T/MG)

THE BIG THING, "In the Elbow Room" ($7 from Rave Records, PO Box 40075, Philadelphia, PA 19106): Crunchy feedback and rock noise assaults that keep the adrenalin pumping even as they liberate the hidden rhythms in your body. The band lays down raw energy, with wires and springs poking out to hit you in the eyes, with an intensity that never loses sight of having fun—which may explain the tuba that sneaks in now and then. Punk at its most accessible. (LP/MG)

BISHOP STEEL, "Sanity From Within" (PO Box 414839, Kansas City, MO 64141): Heavy metal with fuzzy guitars, wailing Iron Maidenish vocals and lots of cymbals—but almost inaudible bass. The four songs on this tape are melodic and move well, especially the instrumental "Egyptian Theme". (T/CER)

BITE THE WAX GODHEAD, "Obvious Signs of Decay" ($5.00 from Cynthia Harden, 330 W. 88th St, NY, NY 10024) This NY male/female pop duo employ an eclectic approach to song writing, from funky pop to melodic rock songs, with a rap song and an electric tango thrown in. Like the variety of genres presented, the results are variable: the more straight ahead pop songs work best, although the rap song holds up suprisingly well. Some interesting orchestration is found in "Absence of Passion," and contributor Paul Rose provides some tasteful guitar work on a couple of songs. This is balanced by a couple of unispired songs, and the inclusion of rapping breaks interrupts a some of the songs awkwardly. I sense that Wax Godhead likes to think of themselves as quirky pop; somehow they've missed the target. (T/PMZ)

BLATANT POP FODDER, "Disturb" ($5 from Dan Susnara, Jr/., 7806 S. Kilpatrick, Chicago, IL 60652): Keyboard/synth/sampled pop/experimental music in eleven parts. They vary from gentle sonic explorations to almost painful static experiments, moving relatively slowly. The band doesn't seem all there yet, as there's a tentative feeling to this which practice and polish ought to remove. A good example of what's going on with the home 4-track studio these days. (T/MG)

BOMB, "Happy All The Time" ($7 from Boner Records, PO Box 2081, Berkeley, CA 94702-0081): Another slab of guitar wizardry, drug-soakings and questionable lyrics from these SF masters of mayhem. I loved the version of "Healthfood and Heroin" here, a song so pretentious as to successfully lampoon rock dinosaur pretentiousness. Then there's the just plain strange hymn "Lucy in the Sky With Desi". Bomb are inexplicable, but the world would be a duller place without their brand of complex screaming hardcore acid rock. (LP/MG)

BONE OF CONTENTION, "48 Points of View" (Igor Records, C/O Lila Shaara, 605 E. 16th. Ave., Munhall, PA 15120): "48 Points of View" is an appropriate title, as this band dexterously plays edgey pop, sometimes with a hardcore feel, blues harp or jazzy bass line. Each of the four memebers has some songwriting input and distinct visions of what they want to say, and plays more than one instrument. I find these "eclectic" albums are often hit or miss; this one's a hit. (LP/DW)

BONGWATER, "Too Much Sleep" (Shimmy-Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): No Chinese shrieking or dream sequences this time; it's much darker than that, a doomy but witty trip—like waking up to the end of the world with hipness as your only insulation. Touching on sexism, ageism and corporate corruption, Ann Magnuson ponders the fate of 60's sitcom blondes in "Psychedelic Sitting Room". Her split personalities come vividly to life in a vicious mimicry of entertainment biz party blather on "Talent is a Vampire". Kramer's proclivity toward layered excess here becomes an exercise in controlled mayhem, adequately paced acoustic starkness contrasted with random sampling, sliding into auditory hallucinations. A brave and classic work. (LP/KF)

BOREDOMS, self-titled (Public Bath, PO Box 2134, Madison, WI 53701) Warped thrash from Japan, this is bellicose hollering rock and roll with relentless ranting and head-beating drumming. The Boredoms, who opened for Sonic Youth and Pussy Galore on their Japanese tours, represent anything but their name as they tear apart the foundations of all that is sane and tasteful in rock music. Buy

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this record of crazed terror and upset your neighbors or roomates. (7"/PMZ)

BOY GENIUS CLUB, "Sex, Drugs & Neoism" (Boy Genius Industries, 425 E. 79th St. #11E, New York, NY 10021): A rather entertaining collection of short, sexy, electro-goofoid pieces most of which pixie about rhythmically. The recipe includes light percussion, taped stuff, synth bop and samples and styles galore: mostly designed for petting the senses, but it packs the occasional big hump. (T/JCM)

BOYS FROM NOWHERE, "No Reason To Live" b/w "1966" (A$4 plus A$4 air shipping from Rubber Records, PO Box 32, Hawksburn 3142, AUSTRALIA): Hard rock and a sense of humor—great combination (and on red vinyl too!). The A side is a crunchy driving song, but they shine on the B, an aggravating 60's retro-tune with sleazy organ, three chords, endless repetition and lyrics that poke fun at people who want to live in the musical past. (45/MG)

THE BREEDERS, "Pod" (Rough Trade, 611 Broadway #311, New York, NY 10012): Actually I've only heard the advance tape—and I had to pull strings to get that—but even so I predict good things for this release. It's an open secret that among the four women who make up this band are Tanya Donnelly from Throwing Muses and Kim Deal from the Pixies, combining their guitar and vocal talents. There's some manic scrapings that put me in the mind of the first TM demo tape, some Pixies esoterica, but mostly a selection of multiple vocal harmonies, edgy songwriting, and plenty of guitars. (T/MG)

BRICKS, "The Girl With the Carrot Skin" ($3.50 from Merge Records, PO Box 1235, Chapel Hill, NC 27514): Jagged angular rock/pop loaded with little percussive shots and strange dreamy lyrics. I am quite fond of "The Sturgeon", one of the two tracks on the flipside, even if it is quite perplexing. New southern guitar-heavy harmony music. (EP/MG)

THE BROOD, "Since He's Been Gone" (Stanton Park Records, PO Box 58, Newtonville, MA 02160): A couple of obscure tunes covered by this all-girl garage group who manage to bring an unusual intensity to their work. Maybe it's the interplay of bass and organ that does it, but for whatever reason, the Brood have a sound full enough to do credit to their own vision as well as the ambience they harken back to. I enjoyed the contemplative b-side "You've Got Me Cryin'". (45/MG)

BROWN CUTS NEIGHBOR, "Squid Old Marking" ($5.00 from Jim Kopta, PO Box 847, Schenectady, NY 12301-0847) Wierd humor and dark noise on this 60 minute cassette of garage tinged songs, jams and other oddness. The tunes shift from loose grungey rock to long guitar noise tunnels, with a Beefheartesque construction thrown in; the vocals are raw and gutsy, as fits this music. The first side of the tape is the more interesting of the two, the second side presenting more improvised noise that is at times unfocused, the darker edge of this band showing through. With titles like "Snoggig," "Mayday's Few Linear Tentacles," and "Squid Cut Marking," it's clear that seriousness is not to be found in this band. Comes with a great colored insert. (T/PMZ)

BULLHORN, "No Name" b/w "Hell Mountain" (San Jacinto Records, PO Box 44277, Tucson, AZ 85723): Two tracks of crispy guitar rock from a solid four-piece. Joe Rechel's lead guitar runs the show, with the bass and drums moving right along. Tom Stauffer throws in vocals without real deep meanings but enough thought to keep it interesting, and the tight production really helps. (45/MG)

"Bundy Interviews" ($5 from Media Queen, 8825 Roswell Rd. #474, Atlanta, GA 30350): The A side of this is the notorious "Focus on the Family" interview in which Bundy claims pornography helped influence him to kill people (however, he very clearly says it was not the sole reason, a fact the anti-porn folks tend to ignore). The B side is interviews with Bobby Lewis, also on death row, who claims that that was nonsense, and paints a picture of Bundy as an insecure, opportunistic nut. Both of these are taped from TV shows, but the sound quality is reasonably good. (T/MG)

RAY CARMEN, "Between You and Me" b/w "Ode to Jandek" ($2.00 from GGE Records, PO Box 5088, Kent, OH 44240) Cassette single from Ray Carmen and collaborator Mike Crooker. The first side, "Between You and Me," from his forthcoming tape lp, is an

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up beat rock pop tune with guitar and subtle synth. Nice vocals and a pleasant feeling here. Side 2, "Ode to Jandek," is a more gutsy blues instrumental: a basic bass line under a dirty rhythm chord builds to a rather frantic pace over the freer, occassionally stuttering drums. (T/PMZ)

RAY CARMEN, "Dance Party" ($3 from 1513 Brittain Cir. #8, Akron, OH 44310): "One day it occurred to me that if I sampled the first note of the accapella intro to Queen's "Fat Bottomed Girls", and played around with it, I could make it sound like a Bulgarian folk song. Yup, this is what I like to do in my spare time." The piece is fun, and goes well with the other sampling experiments, including one with vocals from George C. Scott as General Patton. The other side has some more normal pop which is nothing spectacular. (T/MG)

CARRION DOG/DOGUE, demo tape (PO Box 203, Fairfax, VA 22030): A pair of groups with overlapping members. Carrion Dog starts out sounding like mindless cookie-cutter hardcore, but with songs like "Artfag" and "St. Eves Blues" they establish a pretty broad range and make some complex, entertaining music. Dogue have a more experimental/New Wave/industrial sound, playing around with the boundaries of music and going for long slow jams. (T/MG)

CATTLE, "Hard Times (In West Pho)" b/w **WHAT WENT WRONG**, "Throw It Away" (Addled Records, PO Box 40421, Tucson, AZ 85717): A split 45 in Toxic Shock's "Noise From Nowhere" series. Al Perry and the Cattle present another fine story of the west in their country-punk style, this time looking back on growing up in Phoenix. What Went Wrong provide heavier licks, lots of guitar interplay and lyrics which stand out less. (45/MG)

CEDAR STREET SLUTS, "Songs by Working Girls" (Black & Blue Records, 400D Putnam Pike #152, Smithfield, RI 02917): Yeah, so the hooker act is probably a gimmick, but these gals still put together some fun and sexy pop/rock/funk stuff. They even take a couple of GG Allin songs and make them sound good: "Sluts in the City" and "In This Room" are serious music. "Working Girls", on the other hand, is solid raunch & roll. Buy it and pant. (LP/MG)

CHANGES TO BLIND, "Changes to Blind 2" ($6 from Mucal Studio, PO Box 9437, Schenectady, NY 12309): Rampant technofunk that draws in the outside world as raw material to alter, even taking over the telephone at a couple of points. The music pops quickly by, synthetic bubbling and bouncing with deranged vocals laid on to a few tracks. Includes a cassette insert which is more confusing than helpful. (T/MG)

SNAKE CHAPMAN & PAUL SMITH, "Fiddle Music From Pike Co. KY" ($8.50 from Fiddle Around, PO Box 15075, St. Louis, MO 63110): These traditional and original fiddle and banjo duets are an energizing earful. The sound quality is excellent, and a fair attempt is made to keep things from getting too dizzyingly monotonous—there's a banjo solo, and guitar on a few cuts. Wonderful to hear a familiar and rare tune like "Indian Nation" and to awe at the speed and skill of genuine folk musicians. A real lift for housework. (T/KF)

CHICKEN CHEST, "Action Packed" (ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): ROIR has been a great cassette-only label for a long time; in the last couple of years they've taken a leading position as a reggae label as well. This release is squarely in the reggae camp, featuring a fast-talking Jamaican deejay rapping his way through 10 hot dance tunes. To top it off, ROIR includes dub versions of every one—making for an incredible 166 minutes of quick moving reggae. (T/MG)

CHURCH OF ARGLEBARGLE, "Arglebargle Indoctrination Tape #1: God-Biscuit Wants You!" ($5 from Jason Hoelscher, PO Box 30116, St. Louis, MO 63119): Subliminal stereophonic pseudo-religious blather from the Nuclear Platypus Church of Arglebargle. Kind of funny in spots ("...you absolutely must agree with these basic principles, unless you don't want to..."), but rather unlistenable, even on its own SubGenius-like, gobbledegook, audio-montage level. High Pope Gus Rasputin Freak the First and the rest off the Arglebargle Reality Technicians seem so wrapped up in their own goofiness that they've forgotten whatever it was that they were trying to say about religion, conformity and dogmatism. Or maybe I'm giving them too much credit. Includes read-along booklet. (T/KS)

C.I.A., "In The Red" (Combat Records, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): C.I.A. is the side project of Nuclear Assault drummer Glenn Evan, and it's a great growling mass of heavy metal with, of course, lots of drums—notably on the extended intro to "Moby Dick Part 2", where a fantastic drum solo is about twice as long as the rest of the song. "Flight 103" may raise a few eyebrows over its questionable taste, while "Extinction" and "NASA" are exceptionally powerful songs. Watch for the release of this one. (T/MG)

CIRCUS OF POWER, "Vices" (RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): The band calls this "Urban Blues", and that's as accurate as anything—there's the bluesy habit of singing about loose women and fast cars and strange things that happen at night, and an urban semi-metallic rock sound that pumps it up into a serious experience. "Two River Highway" is a good driving song, strong on the beat and with a high-tension ambience to it. (CD/MG)

CLAY PEOPLE, self-titled (PO Box 2393, Albany, NY 12220): Damned good and quirky drumming, not world beat, not rock, not anything but original anchors the sound here. Throw in an unassuming bass line, a couple of keyboardists, and vocals that are on the line between gloom and angst and you've got the sound of Clay People. A dance band striking out in a new direction, which so far looks like a promising one. (45/MG)

COFFIN BREAK, "Freebird" b/w "Pop Fanatic" (C/Z Records, 1407 E. Madison #41, Seattle, WA 98122): Does the world really need a thrash grunge psychedelia cover of "Freebird" recorded on a white vinyl single? Probably not. Despite their superfluity, the two songs here are fun in a backhanded loudmouth way, not pretending to be great, just worried about fuzz and volume. (45/MG)

ART COHEN, "Real Time" ($8 from 7118 Sellers Ave., Upper Darby, PA 19082): A wonderful electronic music album—even more wonderful when you realize it was all done with an electric guitar and a few distortion and delay devices. No dubs, no edit, no synth—but Art has still put together a compelling and eerie experience, with two pieces, each filling a whole side of the tape. A skilled exploration that proves we are only beginning to tap the potential of our instruments. (T/MG)

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CONDITION, "Swamp Walk" (C'Est La Mort, PO Box 91, Baker, LA 70714): Even though the band is from Montreal and the album was recorded in West Berlin, this is exactly the music you'd expect with a title like that and a New Orleans label—strong, down and dirty, bayou music. Julia Gilmore's rangy, expressive, moving voice makes tunes like "Beat my Daddy to the Grave" and "St. James Infirmary" things of glistening lowdown beauty. Music for the wee hours, a haze of cigarette smoke, and depressing memories. (T/MG)

THE COUP DE GRACE, "'Til the Bitter End" (Red Decibel, 2541 Nicollet Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55404): A blue-vinyl limited edition slab of power metal. There's a low-down growling vigor to this band, more ominous than most guitar theatric outfits can manage. The b side, "Sad But True" is sure to steamroller through any gathering of metal folks with its untamed energy. (EP/MG)

COWBOY JUNKIES, "The Caution Horses" (RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): A very wistful record from this Toronto-based college radio darling band. Their sound is light and complex, depending heavily on harmonies, a sort of folk/ethnic ambience, and Margo Timmins' expressive voice. She displays more range here than on previous releases, while still returning to the almost unbearable loveliness that's apparently her core sound. (CD/MG)

THE CRAMPS, "Stay Sick" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Swamp-heated sex-laden rock and roll devil music to put a kink in your brain. The Cramps have been around for years and are still cranking out erotic late-night guitar blasts, along with covers of tunes like "Shortnin' Bread" that somehow find lascivious meanings in the most innocuous of lyrics. Lurid, feverish, exciting, trashy, classic rock and roll. (T/MG)

CRAWLING WITH TARTS, "Greed Tool Hand in the Lee of Icebergs" ($5.00 from ASP, 633 Cleveland St No 4, Oakland, CA 94606-1006) From Oakland comes an Antarctic exploration in the form of rhythmic improvisation for guitar, drums, piano and various percussive instruments. The pieces range from droning rhythmic pieces to high energy interaction, with occassional female voice singing in a semi-abstracted manner above. At times evoking the sound of an acoustic Sonic Youth; Skeleton Crew or Zeena Parkins' music also comes to mind. Whether listening intently or using as a backdrop to work, this is the kind of sound I like have around me. High quality numbered inserts with Antarctic maps round out the package. (T/PMZ)

CRAZY CRAZY LISPING POLICEMAN, "Your Beard Has the Consistency of an Earthquake" ($2 from PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): Vocals, guitar, and nasty eerie annoying noises. Much of the vocal quality hovers around spoken word, spurting passages of desperate angst trying to communicate. But with avant-punk music to drive the listener away, communication seems unlikely. A few sparks of interest. (T/MG)

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THE CRUCIFIED, self-titled (Narrowpath Records, PO Box 23444, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523): Blaring rhythmic no-nonsense metalcore with a punch. "One Demon to Another" is a great song, with a frantic beat reminiscent of Aerosmith's "Walk This Way" and lyrics to frighten any non-believer. "Unity" has a wallop of music and message too. Plenty going on here, fast and furious and guaranteed to raise some roofs. (T/MG)

CYRNAI, "To Subtle-Drive" (5337 College Ave. #227, Oakland, CA 94618): Electro-minimal music from a rather mysterious artist who also uses her own vocals to lend an eerie tone to some tracks. These are rhythmic tracks that ebb and flow with a strange mix of the organic and the machine, exploring some of the synergies between the two. A bit jarring at first, but it finds a groove pretty fast. (T/MG)

THE DAMNED, "Final Damnation" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): A live recording from the 1988 reunion of this seminal punk group, featuring original members Rat Scabies, Captain Sensible, and Dave Vanian. They perform a pretty sloppy set, with occasional highlights (like the offhand cover of "Help" or their own anthemic "Smash It Up") peeking out of the murk. It's not a real tight performance by any means, but it still captures some of the original punk energy without quite the painful noises that later developed as the artform was fine-tuned. (CD/MG)

DARK ANGEL, "Live Scars" (Combat, 187-07 Henderson Avenue, Hollis, NY 11423) A live heavy metal release that does little to distinguish itself. The playing is competent, and the vocals yell-sing their way along, occassionally sounding like a sort of heavy metal rap. This is from their recent 'Leave Scars' tour; few in the audience seemed excited when asked if they'd picked up the latest record from this self-described excruciating "caffeine metal" band. (T/PMZ)

DOC CORBIN DART, "Patricia" ($7.50 from Alternative Tentacles, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101): Modern troubador anti-folk stuff, with sincere thoughtful lyrics and lots of guitars. The only problem is that Dart's voice is basically like mine—atonal. After two sides of his yowling, I wasn't all that concerned about the instruments or the social significance of this record. (LP/MG)

DASH RIP ROCK, "Not of This World" (Mammoth Records, 5 W. Hargett St. 4th Fl., Raleigh, NC 27601): Rockabilly meets psychedelic good-time honkytonk music, played with vigor if not exactly polish. The best of their numbers are ones like "Christmas in El Paso" that could have been recorded as country but are a good deal more hard-slamming in their hands. Energetic and fun. (LP/MG)

DAVE AND THE RAVE, "Walkin'" (Big Toe Records, 365 Second St., Jersey City, NJ 07302): Four-piece rock-a-billy with plenty of pep and some tunes—notably "Eddie V."—that it's darned difficult to get out of your head once they seep in. The band's presence comes across well on this demo tape, and makes me want to hear more of their stuff. Not experimental, not groundbreaking, just solid music in a great tradtion. (T/MG)

THE DEAD MILKMEN, "Metaphysical Graffiti" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Well, the DM's have definitely not sold out yet; they're as snide, as sloppy, and as wonderfully post-punk-pop-confused on this record as ever. In "Methodist Coloring Book" they admonish that God does not like people who color outside the lines; "Little Man in My Head" brings thought control to the fore; "Do the Brown Nose" is a sardonic introduction to the world of business. Rodney Anonymous tucks more little bits of back country hick gossip in between the tracks, guaranteed to offend anyone who thinks of the Heartland as a wonderful place. I laughed for hours. Then I played it again. (CD/MG)

BRUNO DE ANGELIS, "Nets'vis" b/w "Pinocchio" (Diagrapho, CP 19, 37050 Asparetto (VR), ITALY): Two compositions of semi-classical slightly electronic music. "Nets'vis" is bouncy and ever-changing, a twinkling avalanche of imagery and fun. "Pinocchio" seems more serious, taking a musical approach to the famous story but somehow emphasizing the downbeat time inside the whale. Interesting. (T/MG)

ROBERT DEEBLE, "Songs From The Sabbatical" ($6 from Liberation Music [checks to Robert Deeble], 230 Palo Verde Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815): Acoustic folky Christian contemporary music with an overall roots rock sound to it. Deeble tends to be more gentle than confrontational, sharing rather than aggressively attacking. I personally find this approach more inspirational than that taken by a lot of CCM bands. (T/MG)

DEFIANCE, "Void Terra Firma" (RC Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): Hard, hard, hard metal music that saws off the top of your head with a dull chainsaw and then offers you a nice plate of brains to eat for lunch. Lots of apocalyptic lyrics combine with steady guitar playing and killer drumming to lead to a deafening experience. (T/MG)

DELETED, "No Songs" (Tonspur Tapes, Stefan Schwab, Eskilstunastrasse 8, 8520 Erlangen, WEST GERMANY): Solo electro-gloom dance pop music from C. Petchanatz. In 20 multilingual (though mostly English) songs, he bounces around from light and airy to dark and dismal, with a predominance of the latter. Some moronic beats go on for too long, but mostly this is a good arty release. (T/MG)

GORDON DERRY, "Morphic Resonance" (C$8 from 2105 Honeywell Ave., Ottawa, ONT, K2A 0P7, CANADA): The second of Derry's "Mindscape Trilogy": of majestic electronic music. This tape concentrates on the slow unfolding of themes, using mainly synthetic music but also a bit of vocals. Derry's work tends to be evocative and impressive, with plenty of depth and solidity rather than flash. (T/MG)

DESOLATION, "The Good Earth" (5 Second St., Wanaque, NJ 07465): A demo tape from a three-man garage-sounding band, with vocals that are a bit more harsh than one would normally associate with this music. It takes a while for them to hit their stride, but most of the way through this demo comes a longish heartfelt instrumental guitar interlude that pulls it all together. (T/MG)

DISTURBED, "Don't Expect Any Miracles" ($5 from PO Box 6001, Minneapolis, MN 55406): A four-song demo tape from one of the most amazing noise metal bands I've yet to have the pleasure of running across. They scream, they sing, they play the hell out of their guitars, they bombard the listener with noise and feedback until sheer sensory overload sets in. Through it all they don't quite lose sight of the tunes they're playing, though sometimes the energy propels them into low Earth orbit. Headbanging deluxe. (T/MG)

DOMESTIC CRISIS, "DC-10" ($5 from Jim Lippucci, 73 E. Dartmoor, Seven Hills, OH 44131): Not-quite-psychedelic not-quite-metal hard-edged fast-driving music from Cleveland. Though they screech the guitars as well as any headbangers their lyrics tend to be more thoughtful; I enjoyed the reasonable message behind "(We're All On) Drugs" and the sheer sarcasm of "Power Struggle". Punk ethos with a lot of intensity. (T/MG)

"**DRIFTing Not-Art**" (Donation from 280 Dundas St. E #424, Toronto, ONT, M5A 3W1, CANADA): Well, this is actually issue #6 of **DRIFT** magazine—after some printing troubles, editor C.F. Kennedy decided to read his galleys on to tape instead. It's a mix of deadpan humor, short stories, and poetry, and I enjoyed parts of it a lot. Unfortunately, the recording quality is sub-marginal (or perhaps it got zapped crossing the border), making large chunks completely inaudible. (T/MG)

DROP HAMMER, "Electric Skies" b/w "Roses In The Wind" (Red Decibel, 2541 Nicollet Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55404): This was quite a paradox. "Electric Skies" is a metallic rocker, with speed guitar, a killer static introduction, and soaring swooping vocals. But when you think you've got the band pegged, turn over this slice of clear vinyl and find "Roses in the Wind", a gentle guitar ballad. Very perplexing—but also well done and interesting. (45/MG)

DRUNKS WITH GUNS, "Drug Problem" (Noiseville, PO Box 124, Yonkers, NY 10710): Coming from a perspective that would make the PMRC puke, Drunks With Guns play an ugly grunge rock while singing about their problems. And with "Drug Problem" the concern is not abuse, but: "30 bucks and I didn't even get off." If it helps, this could be an evil double of Happy Flowers. Don't even think of lending these guys your car. (45/PMZ)

KEVYN DYMOND, "The Best of Kevyn Dymond" ($5.50 from Hypertonia World Enterprises, Jan R. Bruun, PO Box 4307, N-5008 Bergen, NORWAY): Sort of pop experimentalism that ranges from cheesy and boring to intricate and interesting; not surprising given that these recordings span about 7 years. "Night of 1000 Cigarettes" is a rather unusual love song, and probably the best of the lot. It's amazing that a Norwegian label is the best source I know for American classics in this field. (T/MG)

JOHN EAGAN/KEN KNAB, "Elements" ($8.00 from Covert Music, PO Box 5868, Toledo, OH 43613): Cycling repetitions of new age boredom, some using pulsing squiggly noises, some reverberated metallic eerieness, and one synth loop for clarinet and bass tones. The basic program is to set the sequencers in motion, turn on a tape deck, and walk away: the entire second side is built on an absolutely monotonous synth loop. To make matters worse, the first cut (one third of the first side): is too distracting for ambience, but too uninteresting to pay attention to. (T/PMZ)

EAST ASH, "Crushing a Flood" (C'est La Mort, PO Box 91, Baker, LA 70714) Rhythmic grooves driven by insistent drumming and a heavy funky bass sound, strong breathy vocals that slide around the dark subject matter propelling the urgency of these songs. With an ear towards sonic textures and swells, the band evokes a murky clarity of contrasting feedback and precise guitar work. Interesting rhythms intertwined with the strong bass presence build a solid foundation throughout. Though their sound is occasionally too obviously U2 inspired, much of this has a real bite to it. (T/PMZ)

EEL O., "Be Ore Invent (DIY41990)" (Ecto Tapes, 5912 NW 62nd Terr, Oklahoma City, OK 73122) Very much Residents influenced, primarily instrumental electronic music, Eel O. work with synths and effects, overdubbing found sounds and, on one cut, wacky cartoon material. The second side is the more serious of the two, and overall the pace is slower than a lot of electronic releases, but things happen, and the presentation considers the listener. Not everything works here, but I found myself lost in the music frequently, coming back into an odd world of sound that I had not anticipated. To illustrate where they're coming from, Ecto Tape is working on a compilation of Residents covers, a joint project with Paul Rydeen, that is seeking contributors based not neccessarily on quality but absolutely on feeling; send them a tape. (T/PMZ)

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0. Horn Intro (1:01)
1. We Got Soul (2:20)
2. Frat Cars (1:32)
3. History (2:16)
4. Influence (3:07)
5. Authority (1:34)
6. GM (2:17)
7. Red/Green (2:52)
8. Sound On Sound (2:54)
9. Let's Play God (2:19)
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Plain, MA 02130): Six songs from this four year old Boston band, split into threes as the 'Love Side' and the 'Hate Side,' though neither side seems to show a stong sense of either sentiment. The playing is a relaxed hardcore tinged rock, somewhat in a Minutemen vein, the vocals delivered in a sung/spoken/yelling style. Song topics criticize stupid individual behavior, some of which seems self directed; loudness; and finally a driving roller coaster in 'The Ride.' Nice Eels logo on the cover. (T/PMZ)

EEYORE TERMITE TEMPLE, self-titled ($2.00 from David Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224) Diverse collection of wierd songs, cuts ups, and music/sound from this shifting 'band,' titled "Eeyore Power Tool" last time around. Pieces ranging from raw guitar songs to piano and synth, recorder music, or odd noise constructions, unfolds at a relaxed pace, interspersed with funny tape constructions of unlikely phrases. Much of this is raw home studio work, but lack of consistency is balanced by diversity and warped humor; you're bound to find something you like here. (T/PMZ)

EGG, "Feel Better" ($5 from Chris Ballew, 3 Wesley Park #4, Somerville, MA 02143): Egg's bye-bye tape of psychoactive folk-a-silly seems chillin' to these ears. The outfit's brainage blends well various elements of bluegrass, folk, Tex-Mex, 70's metal, rockabilly, etc. The more folky tunes become exaggerated examples of jamming pleasure which logically breed into the punched-out rock numbers herein. Fans of Chadbourne, Half Japanese et al may wish to plunk down the $5 for this one. (T/JCM)

EDWARD EIGERMAN, "Nibbles the Kitten; Robot Zero v. the Volcano Monster" ($3 from 518 Second St, Brooklyn, NY 11215): Two radio format presentations, one a complete Tokyo B movie in 15 minutes: "Robot Zero..." The action is fast paced, with some unlikely plot quirks, though inevitably as predictable as the movie plots it's taken from. Though this is clearly not a serious piece, its blatant silliness is hard to take as a joke at times; still, I was caught with a laugh here and there. The better of the two was "Nibbles the Kitten (That Was too Cute to Live)." Again B grade stuff, but with effects more effectively employed, and a silliness more to my liking. Inconsistent levels made listening difficult on an otherwise clear clear recording. (T/PMZ)

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ELECTRIC LOVE MUFFIN, "Second Third Time Around" (Buy Our Records, PO Box 363, Vauxhall, NJ 07088): Raucous rock and pop that ranges from Elvis Costello meets Alice Cooper to more esoteric thrashing noise. They hop with abandon from one sound to the next, beating up an old r&b standard one moment and going on with their own full-bore grunge attack the next. Music that will definitely keep you on your toes. (LP/MG)

THE ERIC PAONE PROJECT "untitled HAIRBALL JAM" b/w **ORDURE**, "Fresh A In The Hour Of Chaos (Haluk Mix)" ($2 from ordure, PO Box 801, Kingston, NH 03848): I think the combined titles are longer than the playing time here, and possible more interesting. A selection of fast beats that sound synthetic combined with found sounds and a bit of screaming is an adequate way to characterize both sides of this tape. A few listens did not bring out any depth for me. (T/MG)

EVIL ACIDHEAD, "The Depths of Satan" (PO Box 8433, Red Bank, NJ 07701): Dark droning distorted music using looping structures with slowly grinding guitar work plowing through. No titles, but side A is marked 'Evil' and side B 'Acidhead.' The full complement of sound processors are employed, and at exodus a low grumbling voice commits its soul to satan. Perhaps not evil enough to fear trading with the devil, but worthy of a trade nonetheless. (T/PMZ)

THE EVOLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE, "Jesu, Boy of Man's Desiring" ($6 from PO Box 10391, Columbus, OH 43201): Another one-man show, this time about as self-indulgent and tiresome as they get. Mark Gunderson seems to be more interested in producing and packaging his cassettes (with lovely sleeve and label) than in putting anything on them worth listening to. Theoretically amusing covers of Schoolhouse Rock faves "Lolly Lolly Lolly" and "Conjunction Junction" somehow produce few chuckles in practice, and the remainder of the music is just more of the same uninspired, shaggy dog, effects-pedal-too-the-metal doodling that clogs the arteries of cassette culture. Hilarious Family Circus flyers, though. (T/KS)

THE (EX) CAT HEADS, "Our Frisco" ($8.00 from (ex) Cat Heads, 62 Landers St, San Francisco, CA 94114) From San Francisco comes this eclectic band's record, working its mood from comfortable folk and blues influenced songs to hard rocking numbers that maintain an acoustic edge. The songs describe San Francisco and its areas, although not until I read liner notes did I realize this, each piece standing up independently. Sincere acoustic songs and instrumentals show up here, with 12 string and slide guitar work and even some subtle fiddling. The rock tunes, from hard driving to jangly guitar pop are strong songs, the teeth coming out with "Anti-Song," an acoustic rocker that "Ain't getting any airplay on the radio, 'cause this song says the word shit." A diverse record that excites and relaxes effectively. (LP/PMZ)

(experi) MENTAL, "Danse Industrial" ($3 from RSVP Tapecrew, PO Box 394, Society Hill, SC 29593): These guys have a fairly well-developed theory of life being taken over by cyborgs underlying their music, but to tell the truth, it doesn;t seem to give them any edge over more intuitive noise artists. With keyboards and samples and tapes, they create a shifting landscape of sounds, mostly lacking the harsh percussion of industrial, but well-anchored in the static and sine waves inside the machine. Grows tedious after a while, I fear. (T/MG)

EMMA LUDD FISCHER, "Elegant Like Fission" ($4 from 4930 Pershing, St. Louis, MO 63108): I imagine almost everyone who's ever owned a guitar has spent hours noodling around with it, trying various styles out, but not many have felt compelled to record 45 endless minutes of this and send it out for review. The B side adds sampling, found sounds, yowling and other noises. It's not an improvement. (T/MG)

MAYNARD FERGUSON, "Big Bop Nouveau" (Intima Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Ferguson's return to a big band (15 pieces) format starts out promising enough with a smokin' "Cherokee" but quickly descends into Maynard's tired old formula of trumpet pyrotechnics. The tape includes studio cuts and some very poorly-chosen live performances. Do we really need yet another recording of Macarthur Park, Chameleon and Birdland? High school band kids get excited about this stuff when they should be listening to Count Basie and Gil Evans. (T/WM)

FLUID MASK, "1 1/2" ($11 *CASH* Recommended Records, PO Box 717, Ch-8026, Switzerland): 40 flavors of punk n' metal, from grating to grungy to just plain twisted. The "1" is the LP, the "1/2" the 12" EP with three remixes on it. "Alis" is buoyant and cool, like the singer from Alice Donut yapping for Christ on a Crutch. Elsewhere, same singer gets it on with a zillion other influences. There's enough severity and weird kinks here to melt your face and leave you screaming for more. (EP & LP/TG)

FORBIDDEN, "Twisted Into Form" (Combat Records, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): Actually, I've only heard the three-song advanced release tape; we'll probably review the whole album sooner or later. Forbidden put together a loud attack of music, hard metal with better than average vocals. "R.I.P." is the most intense tune here, the one that demands to be cranked up, close to the band's thrash origins, while the other songs are a tad more controlled. (T/MG)

FORCED DOWN, "Rise" (Vinyl Communications, PO Box 8623, Chula Vista, CA 92012): This is pulverizing hardcore brawn-and-roll, and mostly very mosh-worthy. However, "Nothing" was too slow, although it started with some far-out drum patterns. And although I'll probably have to eat shit for this one, I distinctly heard a Sonic Youth influence at the beginning of "Forced Down," which is otherwise abuzz with straightedge implications. (EP/TG)

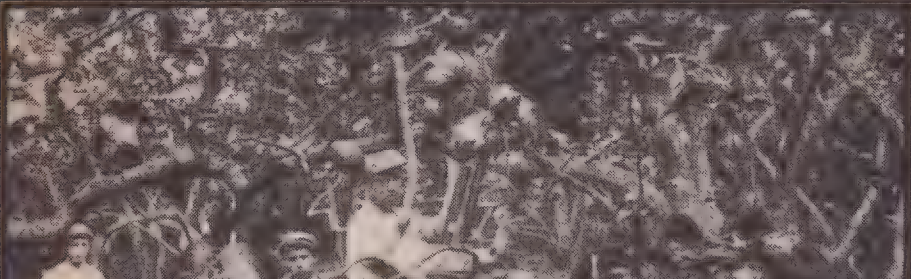
FORMULA 409, "Cleanses Your Palate" ($5.00 from Charnel House Productions, PO Box 170277, San Francisco, CA 94117-0277): Droning song and spoken word pieces merge with electronic experimentation and noise, mostly in a lethargic and uninspired manner. All sorts of cliches, electronic and melodic (My Favorite Things?): show up here, masked for the underground with shock lyrics. The second side is the more interesting of the two, shying away from song formats and simply playing with sound. Unfortunately the recording quality is poor, adding to the dull feeling of these recordings. (T/PMZ)

SKIDD FREEMAN, "Childhood Dreams" ($6 from John Kenney c/o Bad Attitude Productions, PO Box 4281, East Lansing, MI 48826): I thought this sort of heavily distorted guitar extravaganza went out of style twenty years ago, but maybe not. Freeman seems less concerned with music than with assaulting his audience, using his instruments to put up a wall of toxic noise that dares the listener to continue listening. At times he gets pretty repetitive as particularly noxious bits of clamor come forth again and again. Not a nice thing to listen to, but rather intriguing. (T/MG)

FRIDAY NIGHT IMPOTENCE, "Too Much Cologne" ($4.00 to Brian Johnson, Cellar Productions, 11 Werner Rd, Greenville, PA 16125) Hard rocking tape from a band with an ear to punk and hardcore, Friday Night Impotence's odorous tape (dipped in far too much cologne) brings 45 minutes of music from 70's hard rock to 80's alternate rock, with some dark and dirty 50's thrown in. Primarily vocal, a couple of instrumental/jam pieces are thrown in, and some noisy offerings on the fringe of actually being songs; a cover of Minutemen's "I Felt Like a Gringo" is included. Very strange recording quality leaves a sliding cymbal swell throughout; maybe it's just the effect the cologne had on the tape... (T/PMZ)

FUGAZI, "Repeater" ($6.00 from Dischord Records, 3189 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): Proving that the roots of hardcore music lead to a sophisticated and complex rock language, Fugazi bursts out with their first complete lp. The power and subtlety of this band grab you physically with a controlled freneticism that swings the songs from subtle interactive playing to grinding power. All of this is substantiated by the lyrics, which represent flags of concern in the way we live our lives and in the control that others attempt to influence us with. There is a heavier, more frustrated sound in this lp than with the previous ep's; but then, that's the essence of hardcore. (LP/PMZ)

FYDLSTYX, self-titled ($8.50 from Fiddlearound, PO Box 15075, St. Louis, MO 63110): A lovely and lively tape of traditional fiddle (along with other instruments, like concertina, banjo and harmonica) music. Some of the cuts are live and include commentary, so besides being entertained by the feisty rhythms and good playing, you'll even learn a thing or two—such as just what "fiddlesticks" are.



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(T/MG)

GERBER, "'85-'89" (Gerber, PO Box 950212, D8000 Muenchen 90, West Germany): Dynamic pieces with a 20th century classical/Cageian bent, Gerber works with tone generators, preferring to juxtapose clean clanging, creaking bell-like tones with sweeping, swirling sound. The pieces are made by applying self-developed programs and algorithms to these sounds, and then overdubbing live, spotaneous tracks onto them. The results are a clear, active exposition of sound that never stays in one place very long. Beautifully clean recordings on a limited edition CrO2 tape. (T/PMZ)

GIBBS/KNOPOFF, "Culture in the Airwaves" ($6 from Jason Gibbs, 5543 Claremont #2, Oakland, CA 94618): A selection of noises, found in a variety of settings, repeated and multitracked to the point of distraction. Some bits are interesting for a while, but repetitive blips or trumpet torture lose their interest for me quickly. A slowly changing scene, almost static, that fails to produce any real energy. (T/MG)

GO, "And the Time Is Now" ($3 from New York Records, 175 5th Ave. #2589, New York, NY 10010): Hardcore with fast lyrics, lots of deep guitar work, and a sloppy attitude. The lyrics are strong too, with slams against evangelists and those who think they already know The Answer, as well as prejudice of all sorts. Musical mayhem. (EP/MG)

GRANFALLOON, demo tape (18 Leonard Dr., Waldwick, NJ 07463): Light pop/rock which is much improved by the addition of Alice Bartels and her strong vocals to the group. Matt Friedlander shares lead duties with her, and there are plenty of guitars in the background. A bit reminiscent of the Silos, with pleasant hooky tunes and a lot of sincerity. (T/MG)

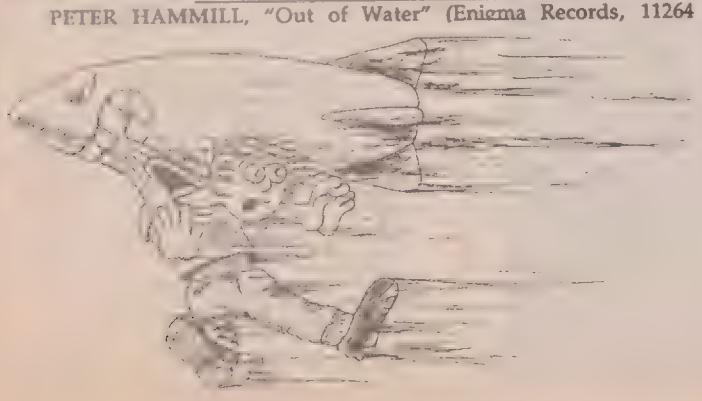
GREGORY GRAY, "Strong At Broken Places" (Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Strong progressive rock from an artist who has made the decision to join a major label so as to have more room to rail at the watering-down of the rock spirit. This shows through clearly on "When the Music Turns Into Money" and "Coming Back For More", two strongly-worded looks at the place of artistic freedom in the marketplace. Funky spirited keyboard-based music with clean lyrical production make it danceable too. (T/MG)

GREEN DAY, "39/Smoth" (Lookout Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): West Coast punk, sometimes in the poppier vein. Songs like "At The Library" speak of teen angst over frustrated romance; "Disappearing Boy" is about adolescent alienation. Further proof that punk is far from dead. (LP/DW)

GRISLY FICTION, "C'mon, Bean Juice" (Community 3, 438 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11211): They call it "art-core": rock that is all sharp angles and harsh meldings of guitar and percussion. It's sort of punk but more concerned with the beauty of dissonance than the sheer aural attack of too much noise; it's sort of rock but will never break through to Top 40. Whatever it is, GF represents a musical frontier, and one which they are exploring with aplomb and seductive novelty. (LP/MG)

A GUY CALLED GERALD, "F/X" (Columbia Records, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): Electronic dance music in a 12" single format. It's almost difficult to see why any human being needed to get involved in this sampled, massaged, electronic addition to house music. It's slick, it's perfect, and it just doesn't do a whole lot for me. Sounds like a rhythm machine on the blink. (EP/MG)

PETER HAMMILL, "Out of Water" (Enigma Records, 11264 Playa Court, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Another fine album from the founder of Van Der Graaf Generator. This album is an excellent balance of the types of songs that Hammill has, in over 20+ records, been noted for. The pacing of the songs is superb, from energetic rhythmic pieces to complex melodic visions. The depth and breadth of his years as a song writer and composer are heard in the characteristically emotive strength of his voice, and in the intellectual sophistication of both his lyrics and his music. From the age of progressive rock to present Hammill has not dabbled in the bane of commerciality; here, he is, as ever, his uncompromising self. (T/PMZ)



HARRISON & CHAPPELLE, "Know Control" ($5 from Poison Plant, 7 Woodsend Pl., Rockville, MD 20854): Eerie electronic rock that makes good use of the human voice, both in relatively standard lyric form and as a sound to be composed with, echoed, distorted. This combines with synthetic sounds to make a buzzing shifting acid trip music, with vast swoops up and down as the tone changes. (T/MG)

KIM HART/JER BENZ, "A Summers Dream" (Native Parade Productions, 783 Woodland Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07062): What makes this release work is Kim's gentle, ethereal voice, It's laid down as the major instrument over a light backing of keyboards and other instrumentals. Actually, everything else tends to fade away, so hypnotic are the vocals. A tape I can listen to over and over again without tiring. (T/MG)

HEIGIENIC FROG, "The Faintest Idea" ($4 from Carter Quinby, 220 Walnut St., Sellersville, PA 18960): Casio-quality synth-anchored pop with the occasional venture into more surreal territory. The latter tend to be the best of the tape, as with "Turning Ashtray" and its eerie droning music and echoing vocals. A demo that shows some sparks. (T/MG)

HEIST, "High Heel Heaven" (Muscle Records, 100 Galli Dr. #5, Novato, CA 94949): Hard rock rather reminiscent of Night Ranger, though on occasion they crank up into the speed metal realm as well. Their songs—"High Heel Heaven" or "Tighter", for example—are unabashedly sexist, but that's not real unusual. Not too slick, this is enjoyable music in a popular vein. (T/MG)

KARL HENDRICKS, "Jolly Doom" (Peas Kor Productions, 813 Romine Ave., Port Vue, PA 15133): Karl Hendricks, the harcore Arlo, dishes up cornpolk folk with a power pop twist, with nary a drummer in sight. Just lots of guitars, playing layered fuzz-punk rhythms to twang-and-grit solos. This guy's got the same whiteboy angst that got Dylan going, and he ain't afraid to let the world know. It's recorded cheap, the vocals are scratchy and it's as wholesome as that old pair of Converse you've got on your feet right now. (T/TG)

HERD OF THE ETHER SPACE, "Hardware Murals" (Ecto Tapes, 5912 NW 62nd Terr., Oklahoma City, OK 73122): Despite the title there isn't too much industrial on this tape, though some of the noise arrangements seem to fall into this category. Mostly it's a mix of found sounds, tape loops and new tracks, wandering somewhat aimlessly from style to style. Every once in a while something interesting pokes its head up, but all too soon seems to sink back into the extended murk. A sprawling attempt at experimentalism. (T/MG)

HERMANOS GUZANOS, "The Rejects" (PO Box 1425, Bakersfield, CA 93302): Sort of Cal-Mex rock that toodles around a lot with the rhythms of the songs. The band has a weird sense of humor, leading to "Tough Dudes Anthem" (an ode to gang fights) and "Dark Roasted Nut" (about the wonders of caffiene). They've got quite a few tapes out now, and they've all been on the fun side of enjoyable. (T/MG)

HIPPYCORE, "Conspiracy of Equals" (PO Box 195, Mesa, AZ 85211): Hardcore punk rock that is laden with social content. From the animal rights of "Voiceless Masses" to the feminism of "Gender Slavery" they put forth the rights of the underdogs, screaming at those who oppress over a sludge of guitars, bass and heavy drums. Powerfully emotional loudness. (T/MG)

ROBYN HITCHCOCK, "Eye" (Twin\Tone, 2541 Nicollet Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55404): Though Hitchcock is now signed to A&M, this album was released on Twin\Tone to thank loyal indie fans with something special: a full selection of acoustic tunes, all showcasing Hitchcock's unique lyric genius. Introspective, beautiful and enigmatic, the selections here include the upbeat "Beautiful Girl", the somewhat cynical "Cynthia Mark", and the wistful "Aquarium". For anyone who likes soft and thoughtful music this is a must have. (LP/MG)

HOLY ROLLERS, "As Is" ($6 from Dischord, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): Tight three piece rock with some fuzz guitar but otherwise a crisp clean sound—one might almost say characteristic of their label. Their lyrics rail strongly against injustice, with the spoken "Ode to Sabine County" and the anti-grasping "Johnny Greed" closing out the album. Dead on stuff. (LP/MG)

HOUSE OF LOVE, "The House of Love" (PolyGram Records, Inc., New York, NY): Tightly-constructed, wall-of-sound European 60's flavored pop. The guitars dominate but are very melodic, so they don't overwhelm the trippy-dippy love song sentiment. Although the sound doesn't vary much from their last album or the college radio pop formula, it's an addictive, guilty pleasure.(T/DW)

HR, "Charge" (SST, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260) Reggae crossed with western rock influences and a world perspective fuel this record from an original founder of Bad Brains. H.R.'s (Human Rights') voice, flowing from rich sonority to quirky edge, works well over the strong grooves and seamless playing on these songs. Horns and synths are used (but not abused) throughout, and some tasteful guitar solos find their way into the warm rhythms and great bass work of this music. Based on the 'Human Rights' title, I had expected the songs to be more confrontational; instead, H.R. sings primarily of the soul of Rasta, which he does in a reassuring way that hits right on. (T/PMZ)

ARRINGTON HUGHES-TREMPER, "Arrington's Flowery Lunatic Yawd" ($5 & stamps from South 731 Lincoln St., Spokane, WA 99204): Solo work with acoustic guitar drawing on Arrington's career as a street-singer. Most of these I find flat, as the qualities needed for the street—chiefly protection and showmanship—don't translate well to cheap recording. But the cover of "Anarchy in the UK" is amusing, and the heartfelt "Don't Kill The Trees" and the gory fable "Flight of Steven's Hand" come through reasonably well. (T/MG)

HUNTERS & COLLECTORS, "Ghost Nation" (Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): How many bands do you know where someone gets credit for "Sound, Design" between the keyboards and the guitars? Well, this is one, and the presence of Robert Miles may explain their idiosyncratic uniqueness, a blend of stark jagged intros leading to gentle vocals and unusual solos. There's a sense of urgency behind the work of this Australian group, and a few genuine hits (including "Running Water" and "You Stole My Thunder"). (T/MG)

HURRICANE, "Slave to the Thrill" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Hard rock that wanders around the edges of heavy metal but doesn't lose itself in guitar antics. There's an almost symphonic feeling to some of this, as the thorough production fills out the four-piece's sound considerably. Their songwriting is decent, with lyrics that are neither utterly stupid nor exceptionally deep, and if their stage presence is up to their recording they should do fine. (T/MG)

IMMACULATE HEARTS, "Fever Dream" b/w "Happy Mother's Day" (No Age Records, PO Box 54214, Philadelphia, PA 19105): Featuring a lead vocalist who used to be with Canada's Viletones and the ex-drummer from the Bush Tetras, this band has a tight clean sound and some vigor. It's almost too polished to be still punk, wandering towards a sort of dark pop sound. Neither of these songs is especially memorable, but the arrangements are crisp and the band seems to know what it's doing. (45/MG)

IMMEDIATES, "Right Now" ($5.99 from POP Records, Inc., PO Box 13216, Tampa, FL 33681) The Immediates play pop music, jumping from modern Sting influenced songs to retropop 60's approachs. The opening cut is a good example of 80's power pop that could easily do air time with its strong vocals and tight changes. The 60's tunes, one of which is structured harmonically in an early Beatles mode, did less for me, feeling contrived in their genres. The modern material, though no less locked in its form, as is most pop, is the fresher and more inspired music here. (LP/PMZ)

INDIAN ROPE BURN, self-titled (GGE Records, PO Box 1784, Kent, OH 44240): These college-radio types make good use of the CD format, serving up almost 70 minutes of good solid music. Naturally at that length there are ups and downs. Some of the ups include the frantic love song "Stupid For You" and the more frightening "Stranger". Lots of strong rhythms and serious guitar work here, with radio possibilities galore. (CD/MG)

INSTANT EVIL, Just Add Water" ($2 from Dave Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): This is not precisely *bad* music—but it is not, by any stretch of the imagination, good music either. More like pointless mediocrity, except for the covers of "Smoke on the Water" and "Wild Thing", which are pretty awful. They bash through a dozen other tunes with guitars and drum programs, but at best, this belongs in the bedroom where it apparently started. (T/MG)

INTENSITY, self-titled (2845 Oakview Ln. N, Plymouth, MN 55441): A demo from this four-piece thrash metal band. They crank out three tunes here with a decent amount of energy, but so far haven't found themselves a voice to help set them apart from a zillion other groups. "False Pretenses" does show some promise for the future, though. (T/MG)

DON IRELAND, self-titled ($3 from Sir Richard Duckworth, Big Red Ant; 330 E. 63rd St., New York, NY 10021): Sorta gloomy minimalist music that takes a harsh view of the world. Ireland has a style that should be popular with the black t-shirt crowd, and a heady electronic beat to tie it together. Danceable, until the lyrics sink in and make you want to just huddle in a corner someplace. (T/MG)

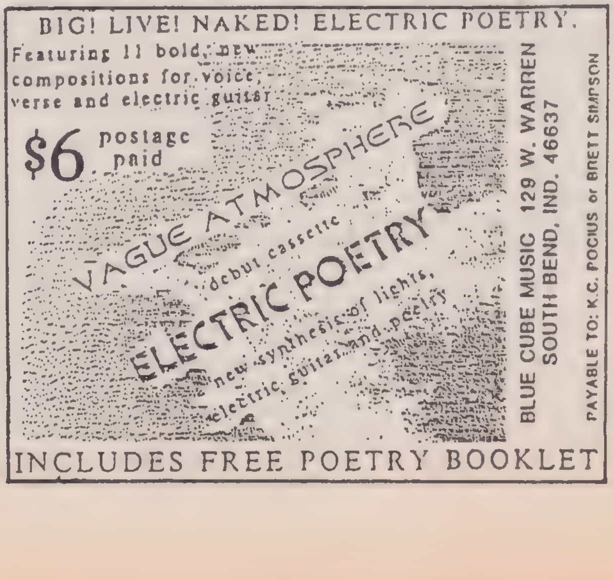
JON JANUARY, "The Unfinished World" (Scheming Intelligentsia Records, 3025 Plaza Blvd., National City, CA 92050): A strange synth pop album that proceeds from doom and gloom darkness improvised-sounding experimental stuff to perky bouncy pop songs. January has a lot of range here, but never settles down into a groove, making it a tough album to appreciate. Enjoyed "Come On John" and "Fuzzy Hearts of Space", a pair of upbeat numbers. (T/MG)

JAWBOX, self-titled ($3.00 from Kim Coletta, Jawbox, PO Box 60335, Washington, DC 20039) Excellent alternate rock release, this 4 song 7" recalls both a Husker Du and a Mission of Burma sound. What distinguishes this music, along with its strong progressions and tight interactive playing, is the lyrics, which are open ended prose pieces that bring one to oneself through the use of interesting image vehicles. Music with a bite and a purpose. (7"/PMZ)

JOY BEFORE THE STORM, "Wasted Weekends" ($5 from Benedictine Tapes, W179 N8587 Village Ct. #8, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051): Slowly-building soundscapes with a dark and complex feel to them that remind one of some material on the 4AD label. They bring in bits of sampled voice from other media and generally seem more interested in leaving an impression than in simply constructing a "song". At times eerie, at times somber, this is an experiment in sound to watch out for. (T/MG)

THE JUICEMEN, self-titled ($3 from PO Box 1131, Allston, MA 02134): Garage rock with a sense of humor—as demonstrated in their cover of "Love Power" from *The Producers*. Their originals move along well too, with "All Night Long" and "Boredom" both being promising cuts, featuring plenty of souped-up guitar work. Nothing too heavy, nothing too serious, just good clean rock. (T/MG)

KANAMITS, "Bananafish" (Luminous Flux Records, PO Box 419, Glenwood Landing, NY 11547): Three piece pop rock with a pretty distinctive sound—although "Can't Ya See" did remind me strongly of some classic work by the Rutles. They sing love songs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and like songs and just plain song songs—pretty unpretentious stuff, overall, with Benjamin East's guitar and voice being definitely the anchor of the band. There's room for improvement, but this is a very credible release. (LP/MG)

KILLJOYS, "Will" ($7.00 from The Killjoys, PO Box 303 W.B.B., Dayton, OH 45409) Progressive alternate rock from this Dayton four piece, Killjoys pay particular attention to creating cool rhythmic grooves under emphatic vocals. None of the eight songs titles are listed on this well done, self-produced chrome cassette, but lyrics include "Night Stick: bash them in the head," which goes along with a police/traffic offendor dialog; the spacey "Spaceman Jack"; and a song that somehow compares rotting meat with the love in a raging heart. The songs have a consistent energy, using clean guitar effects, interesting changes, excellent percussion, some high energy distortion, and an overall warm sound. (T/PMZ)

CRAD KILODNEY, "On the Street With Crad Kilodney, Vol. 1" ($10 [no postage charge if you mention FF] from Crad Kilodney, PO Box 281, Sta. S, Toronto, ONT, M5M 4L7, CANADA): Crad sells his own strange books on the streets of Toronto for a living, and as a result runs into a lot of odd folks. Lately he has been recording them with an unobtrusive mike, and this tape gives us a slice of their characters: religious nuts, airheads, confused students, and other flotsam drift through. Funny in places, scary in others, with a sound quality ranging from abysmal to merely bad, this tape should be enough to convince most people that street sales are not for them. (T/MG)

THE KINGS OF OBLIVION, "Gotta Love Me" (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): Guitar grunge for people who are up drinking too late at night. When played very very loud it's got a certain undeniable charm, but the sloppiness factor here is pretty high. Skip the exploitative sleeve photo too. (45/MG)

LAO TSU, "The Tao Te Ching" ($15.95 from Audio Literature Inc., 325 Corey Way #112, S. San Francisco, CA 94080): Another of the spiritual classics available on tape from this company. Jacob Needleman first reads the entire text uninterrupted, and then follows up with a series of commentaries exploring some of the difficulties in translating the Tao, as well as its application in modern life. I quite enjoyed this, as the reading is well-done and the truths of the Tao are eternal. (2T/MG)

LARRY MOON'S LIVING ROOM, "Uncle Mike's Nightmare" ($5 from S. Cramer, PO Box 7004, Bowling Green, OH 43402): A pretty miserable excuse for music in the garage rock vein. Yeah, I know it was recorded live in a living room on borrowed equipment, but let's face it, good intentions and good fun for the band are not enough. There's no spark here, no polish, no point even though a few of the lyrics are sort of amusing. (T/MG)

THE LEFTHANDS, self-titled ($5 from Sal Robert Pauciello, 9 Stanley St., Irvington, NJ 07111): A pretty sloppy rock demo tape from a group apparently trying to do the sixties thing in the eighties...the closing cover of "Erudite Eyes" is the perfect bloated festival psychedelic song. However the musicianship here is only passable, without fire, and there's not much to recommend either the originals or the other covers. (T/MG)

THE LEFTHANDS, "Office Girl" b/w "Consumer Tumor" (Sal Robert Pauciello, 9 Stanley St., Irvington, NJ 07111): This single is more successful than their tape reviewed directly above. The A side has some definite spark to it, a nice bass line and crisp production. "Consumer Tumor" is more forgettable, an attempt at social relevance that does not carry the music along with it. (45/MG)

LIBIDO BOYZ/INSPECTOR 12, split 7" (Family Fest c/o Steve Munsell, PO Box 5366, Charlotte, NC 28225-5366): Libido Boyz have a straightforward punk sensibility reminiscent of a bunch of DC bands, and doubting hopeful lyrics. Good solid work. Inspector 12, on the other hand, are forgettable drunk=core, focusing their energy on a miserable cover of "Just What I needed" as well as the somewhat better "Procrastination". Well, 1 out of 2 ain't bad. (EP/MG)

BARBARA LIEN, "Primitive Pop" ($4 (?) from VHFPH, PO Box 34, Portland, OR 97207): Some fine songwriting is going on under that nasty tape hiss—it's the only thing standing between you and Barbara and her acoustic guitar. It's so primitive that it's inspirational. Over a tinny electrified rhythm she sing-speaks "You might had come nice parties/but I wanna dance with someone who loves me"—and gets away with it. Some Velvet Underground influence is definitely there. You can invite Barbara and her guitar to all your parties, but maybe if you buy this release she can get a new tape machine. (T/KF)

RUNE LINDBLAD, "Death of the Moon and Other Early Works" ($8.00 from Pogus Productions, 151 First Ave #201, NY, NY 10003) During the 50's development of musique concrete, Rune Lindblad borrowed tape equipment on nightly loan from the university that he worked at and recorded his own music, working tape between recorders to develop unique sound constructions. The results, though limited by todays technical standards, hold up as appealing sonic experiments: the whine of descending aircraft over the drones and resonances of distant worlds speak to us in the language now familiar through the works of Eno or The Hafler Trio. Dormant for 35 years, these recordings have been revived by two of Lindblad's students, and are presented here as fits the work of an original experimenter. (LP/PMZ)

ROB LIPPERT "Comedy Drama (1)" ($5.00 from Poison Plant, 7 Woodsend Pl, Rockville, MD 20854) Voicemeister Rob Lippert works with a variety of voices and strange concepts in an approach somewhat crossing Monty Python or The Firesign Theater, although with a frantic humor all his own. The stories are constructed by Lippert overdubbing his characters to create the final complex, fast paced pieces. A couple of songs are thrown in, one of which is his (or his group's) attempt to "achieve absolute failure" in a song; it's wonderfully messed rock that might possibly succeed. Though the tape has its awkward moments, I found myself frequently chuckling at the quick wit and seamless segments that convey a loose, improvised feel. I'll be waiting for "Comedy Drama (2)." (T/PMZ)

LIQUID INFANT, self-titled ($2 & 3 stamps from SB Comix, RFD 1 Box 350, Coopers Mills, ME 04341): "Recorded 1988-1989 in Dan's attic", but it sounds better than some stuff I've heard from studios. This is sort of laid-back punk, long rearrangements of cover tunes like "Louie Louie", and jamming on their own "Drugs/Fuck Until You Die". No, it's not of real lasting value, but it is some cool guitars and the vocals are quite serviceable. (T/MG)

LITTLE CAESAR, self-titled (Geffen Records, 9130 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069): Primordial simple great rock and roll. Their cover of "I Wish It Would Rain" gets to the heart of their sound, stripping down the original and then rebuilding it with their own power and guitar interplay. No heavy political statements, but a lot of extended songs that echo between the ears and set the feet to tapping. Maybe guitars still can save the world. (T/MG)

THE LIZARD, "Red Not Right/Right Not Red" ($7 from Keith Newman, PO Box 426, Mountaindale, NY 12763): An audio collage of politics right and left, ranging from obnoxious talk show hosts to commie-symp popular music. Bits of humor dip into the middle, and there is plenty of shouting and stridency. Doesn't seem to hold out much hope for consensus on the part of the human race, but an interesting exercise in dissonance. (T/MG)

LOCK UP, "Something Bitchin' This Way Comes" (Geffen Records, 9130 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069): Funky rock that ranges over a pretty wide musical range, with a definite alternative feel that takes from such diverse genres as hip-hop and metal. The sound is full-bodied and intriguing, and seems well-suited to the showmanship that seems to lurk behind every note. Check out the extended lyrical strangeness of "Tell Me When It's Over" or the sheer power of "Peacekeeper". (T/MG)

THE LOLLYPOP! GUILD, self-titled ($5 from Monotonous Records, PO Box 427, Bastrop, LA 71220): A two-man band (they add a bass to play live) with a great lowdown power rock grunge sound. Their cover of "Ticket to Ride" is something fine, with a punch not packed by the original. Occasionally, as in "White Noise '88" they go off into more experimental realms, but mostly this is gut-rumbling foot-stomping music. (T/MG)

SONDRA LONDON, "Actual Fantasy" ($5 from Media Queen, 8825 Roswell Rd. #474, Atlanta, GA 30350): Pop/rock originals by Sondra, with lyrics that seem drawn from a blues or C&W milieu—love lost and love gained are the main subject. There's a nightclub atmosphere here, and she projects as a good performer should, putting lots of emotion into her work. Downright sexy in spots, resigned and weary in others. (T/MG)

LOOP, "A Gilded Eternity" (Beggars Banquet/RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): "Bloated" is the word that springs to mind here, though the one they intended is probably more like "trance-like". Loop is a repetitive guitar band, with touches of space rock but mostly a technique of taking one small idea and pounding it into the ground. The CD format gives them ample space to exercise this predilection. (CD/MG)

LOVE, CALVIN, "Mr. Joy" ($4.00 from UME, 465 3rd SE, Huron, SD 57350): Collection of songs and narrated musical pieces, primarily for acoustic guitar and beat box, although electronic snippets and electric guitar do find their way in. The songs deal with topics of humility, frustration, and obscure humor ("Burn Victims Suck," "Jeff's Legs [fell off]"). While there are some decent songs here, many of them come off feeling akward or contrived; to quote: "words that flow like motor oil." (T/PMZ)

LOVE, CALVIN, "Portrait of Flesh" ($4 *CASH* from Lime, 465 3rd SE, Huron, SD 57350): Solid rock that ranges from fuzzed-out psychedelia to modern hardball protest songs. I especially liked "Ga-Ga", a long indictment of current American ruling class attitudes that delves deeply into the shame some feel of living in the same country with Republicans. Alternatively thoughtful and twisted. (T/MG)

LOVE/HATE, "Blackout in the Red Room" (Columbia Records, 51 W. 52 St., New York, NY): An arena-sized metal act with all the trappings: attitude, hair, babes in leather. Except here there's a lot of talk about the perils of drug and alcohol abuse. "Why Do You Think They Call It Dope" makes its point lyrically, but the presentation is so laughable (read: Top 40 pop metal) that I had to get high or I'd have smashed the record. This foursome of Joey Gold, Jon E. Love, Jizzy Pearl and Skid sound like they've had a roller coaster of a rock 'n roller, but I didn't really want to hear about it, even if they do use a cello once in a while. (LP/TG)

DR. TIM LOWENSTEIN, "Mayan Mist" ($11 from Dr. Tim or Janai Lowenstein, PO Box 9, Drain, OR 97435): A relaxation tape using "Holographic music" to stimulate memory and flashback images. The stress meter thermometer included in every tape is fun. Gentle, droning tribal rhythms, New Age-y Mayan flute harmonies and ocean sounds are relaxing, but they didn't bring to mind the Jaguar man or Tiger man at the sun temple the tape insert said they would, which is a good thing; tigers and jaguars aren't very relaxing. (T/DW)

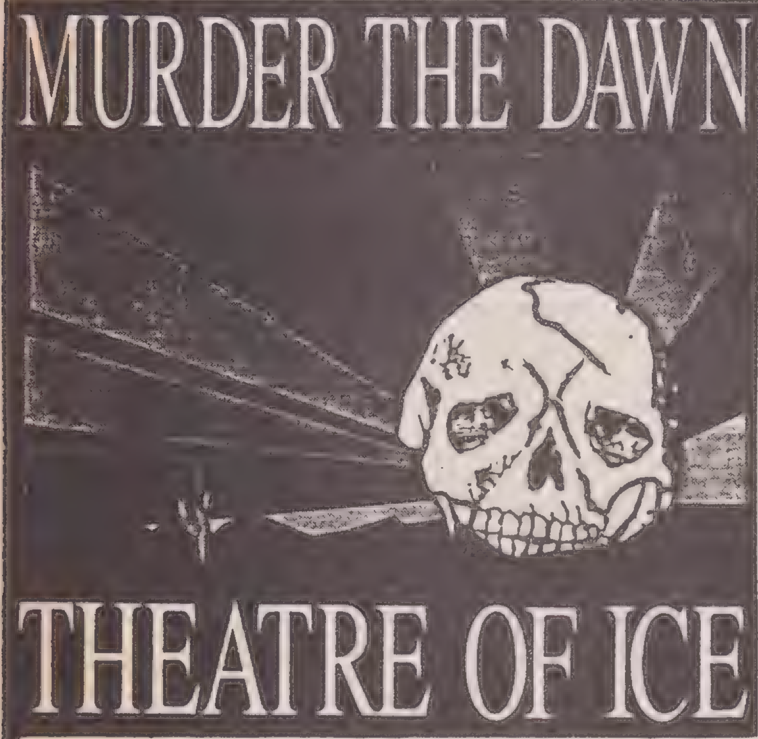
LUSTFINGER, "Gassenhauer" (c/o Michi Schirmeister, Kreuzeckstr. 1, 8132 Tutzing, WEST GERMANY): German-language (except for the phonetic cover of "If I Had a Hammer") punk with a rather melodic sound and lots of verve. They start out at a fast (but not thrashing) pace, and keep it going until the end of the last song. Throughout there's an anthemic sound, youth on the march and determined not to be stopped. (LP/MG)

MACHINETOOL, "The Magic of Loops" (Deaf Eye, Rheinstr. 21, 1000 Berlin 41, WEST GERMANY): Loop based recordings employing guitar, drum machine, fm synthesis and spoken word, varying between energetic rhythmic repetitions and atmosperic environments. The pieces are well sequenced, and the transitions within a piece are generally smooth, providing a diverse, effective audio environment that rarely repeats to the point of acknowledgement. An interesting and frequently warm music to accompany you. (T/PMZ)

MANO NEGRA "Puta's Fever" (Virgin Records, 9247 Alden Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210): Multilingual multicultural dance music that rips off dozens of styles, not by sampling, but by actually playing in them. Bullfight music meets rap meets polka meets reggae meets folk meets punk and ska to form one fast-paced melange. It's hopping, it's happening, it's slick and fun, with no more lasting value than a candy bar but the same sort of immediate gratification. (LP/MG)

MARSHMALLOW OVERCOAT, "Alive" (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): Wailing fuzzy psychedelia from one of the modern masters of the genre. The strongest action is on the A side, especially in the frantic "7 and 7 Is". The B is more of a novelty, a live recording from Club Congress which I am surprised any sound man would have associated his name with. (EP/MG)

MAYHEM, demo tape ($4 from Kenny Moran, 1-413 Sherbrook, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 2W7, CANADA): A tape of the blues that just doesn't do it for me, between the agonizingly slow progress of



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the very first cut ("My women") and the strictly lo-fi production. There may be a spark lurking in here someplace, but I just can't hear it. They'd like to swap tapes with other blues musicians if you want to take a chance. (T/MG)

SKATMAN MEREDITH, "Way of Life" (Lockjaw Music, PO Box 444, Rockland, DE 19732): Folky acoustic guitar music that ranges from gentle to something approaching beautiful. Meredith has a voice that almost but not quite fills the consciousness and a thoroughly competent guitar style to go with it. Songs like "Winter Morning" and "Save This Man" have a universal reverberation that provokes both thought and hope. (T/MG)

MIDNIGHT OIL, "Blue Sky Mining" (Columbia Records, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): Full-bodied Australian frontier rock. Five guys in the group plus some additional studio musicians makes for a rich guitar-laden sound. Although their songs are directed at the open spaces, there's an attitude of reverence rather than rapine here; they celebrate the land and hope to see it preserved. (LP/MG)

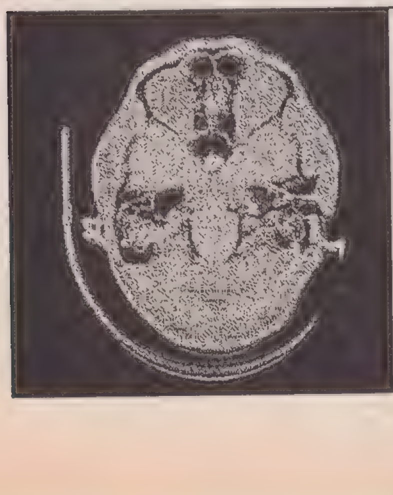
MIKE MISKOWSKI, "360° Bulbnoid Strainer" ($5.00 from Bomb Shelter Props, Box 17686, Phoenix, AZ 85011): Fun collection of cut up collage work, 360 degrees is Mike Miskowski, (and occassional collaboration): working with a Mac+ and 'cheap home studio recording equipment,' although the results are not really cheap sounding. Mutated voice or unlikely monologue is presented over a bed of rumbling, throbbing or just plain strange noise to create a varied and frequently amusing tape that holds interest through its well paced short segments. Nice title on a thorough, well presented cassette package. (T/PMZ)

M'LUMBO, "M'lumbo Plays For God" (Maitre'd Records, 70 E. 10th St., New York, NY 10003): Rhythm-happy recombinant restless music from these masters of improvisational appropriation. They continue to dress up familiar tunes, from the Star Trek theme to "You really Got Me", with a heady mix of percussion, lush arrangements, and primitive energy. Check out their revamp of "Aquarius" on this tape. (T/MG)

MONSTER MAGNET, self-titled (Monster Magnet, 17 Canal St., Red Bank, NY 07701): Psychedelic deathpunk would be the best way to describe this brutal monster mash of tripping hell. "Black Wawa" features the sampled voice of a pissed-off Black man put to an abstract noise meltdown, dripping with oily fear. Side two is "Tab," an extended ode to misery, with all the usual effects: fuzz, wah, spacedout vocals, plodding drums, pot, etc. This thing was grating, but not always in the right places, although "Lizard Johnny" and "Brainstorm" were both killers. (T/TG)

RONNIE MONTROSE, "The Diva Station" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Some musicians never seem to change. Ronnie Montrose, fortunately, is not one of them. Having left hard rock and heavy metal behind, he's now turning out crisp progressive rock, more interested in feelings and images than in headbanging and raw emotion. At times almost jazz-like, at others the stuff that AOR is made of, there's a wide range here and flawless if at times pedestrian execution. (T/MG)

MR T. EXPERIENCE, "So Long Sucker" b/w "Zero" (Lookout Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): This is one of those hell-bent for nice weather singles that makes you feel like wheeling down the Pacific Coast highway to a beach blanket punkabilly bash, with nothing to worry about except tomorrow. Frankie Avalon's strung out on skag and Annette Funicello just got her first nipple ring, but you're king for a minute-and-a-half with this one. A smash hit. (45/TG)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MURILEE ARRAIAC, "No Grace Period" (Wounds Patriot Tapes, PO Box 4171, Irvine, CA 92716): I don't know if this is one person or a group or a whole orchestra, but they play harsh hard electronic music that builds to unbearable peacks of sonic torture. It's hard to tell one song from another, which is a pity since some of the titles are so wild: "Multiple Through-and-Through Sucking Head Wounds" and "Valhalla Vacuum Vasectomy", for examples. Warbling space aliens from hell. (T/MG)

PHINEAS NARCO, "Pain/Passion" ($6 [no trades] from 641 S. 11th St. #14, San Jose, CA 95112): An audio collage that suffers from the failings of many of the genre: it's too darned long, uses others' material in excess rather than demonstrating fresh creativity, and lacks cohesion. Narco splices together popular music, television and radio, with a few inspired sequences, but generally this is long dull slabs of stolen work. (T/MG)

"A Nation Betrayed" ($8 from The Other Americas Radio, PO Box 85, Santa Barbara, CA 93102): A conversation with Colonel James "Bo" Gritz about his charges that the US has turned down a deal that would wipe out Burmese heroin production because the US government is involved at high levels. Either Gritz is grandstanding (as his critics claim) because the search for POWs is losing its PR value, or he's got the goods on some high up people indeed. Another link in the mostly-ignored evidence about the secret wars and dirty tricks our government has played. (T/MG)

Née TUMI, "More Than Life Itself" (Proton Productions, 529 S. Seventh St. #510, Minneapolis, MN 55415): Deliciously offbeat music from a modern big band—about fifteen people, with lots of guitars, a couple of saxophones, and even a neurosurgeon. Their music bounces and jitters, refusing all reference points, but is somewhere close to the dance-pop instrumental world. I liked it, and will be sampling it again. (LP/MG)

NIGHT SOIL MAN, "Garden of Delights" (Vinyl Communications, PO Box 8623, Chula Vista, CA 92012): This beast features lots of animals in various stages and metaphors of life, pain, horror, anger and death. Rsebud howls and plays guitar, blistering through "In the House of Vivian Section," a plea to end animal research that starts out slow and pretty before collapsing into a hellpit of painful medication. It's demonic, too, as on "Good Day for a Roadkill," where rosebud faces mortality by lusting for a chance to make pavement pizza of Peter Cottontail. A wailing juggernaut with some softer moments, this one's worth the price of submission. (LP/TG)

NO THING, "Tape 75" ($5 from Poison Plant, 7 Woodsend Pl., Rockville, MD 20854): A pair of extended live electronic music pieces which meld the new (synthesizers) and the old (oscillators) into one occasionally ear-piercing brand of music. There are also processed vocals to add to the eerie effect. The music sounds improvised, with the three members of the group each trying to top the others in strangeness and esotericity. This results in rising and falling tides of sound, which get relaxing in short order. (T/MG)

NOT SHAKESPEARE, self-titled (1708 Whipple Dr., Blacksburg, VA 24060): A four-song EP of melodic and medium-complex pop music that stands out for its solidity; it really doesn't sound like there are only three musicians here, but there are. Of the songs here, I think the somewhat flashy "Pockets" is my favorite, building up a pleasant and unpretentious soundscape to good effect. Definitely ready for airplay. (EP/MG)

MIKE O'CONNOR, "Journey Through the Dark Butthole of the Soul" (3027 SE Ankeny, Portland, OR 97214): Simple, sometimes funny, acoustic-guitar folk with nutty lyrics. How many songs have you heard about "Safety Glasses", for example? Other songs here include "Owed t'Ollie North" and the rollicking "Recycle 'r' Die". (T/MG)

ONE BLOOD, self-titled (Omar Sheriff, 35 Fountainhead Rd. #1805, Downsview, ONT, M3J 2V7, CANADA): A four-track hardcore demo that sounds pretty good—perhaps more for the spirited playing and socially responsible lyrics than for the musical quality itself, though the latter is certainly high enough. In addition to going after big business and Christianity, they also slam punks who've sold out in "Corporate-Core" and even their own pretensions in "Mid-20's Crisis". I enjoyed this tape. (T/MG)

OPIATE OF THE MASSES, "Where You Are" (PO Box 884, Bowling Green, OH 43402): Well, I've worked my way back to the debut release from this band, and while it's not as great as some of their later work it is still well worth a listen. Try the dancehell sendup "I Am Electric", the homage of "Elvis On Planet Earth", and the desperate "Cities". Interlocking vocals and instrumentation makes this a thinking man's pop tape. (T/MG)

ED OSBORN, "Lennarcs" ($8.50 from Generations Unlimited, PO Box 540, Marlborough, MA 01752-0540): There is a level of experimentalism beyond which lies only tedium—I feat that this tape has successfully invaded that land. Osborn uses fancy computer techniques, pink noise, and guitar pickups to produce sounds that range from annoying to merely dull. An electronic marvel, but aesthetically, there's nothing here. (T/MG)

THE OTHER WANKERS, "Masturbate in a Cemetery" ($5 ppd from PO Box 159, World Trade Centre, Melbourne 3005, Australia): Two songs, nine minutes of happy bouncy clever catchy pop music—which just happens to be about masturbation. "Masturbate" is an argument in favor, sort of an audio **THE JOY OF WANKING**. The "Cemetery Song" is a bit morbid, combining wanking with necrophilia for a gruesome good time. (T/MG)

ANNA PALM, "Arriving and Caught Up" (One Little Indian, 250 York Road, London SW11 3SJ, ENGLAND): One of the best solo albums I've heard in a long time. Anna is trained in classical violin, and she plays that (plus a few other instruments) here, accompanied by her own voice and drums. But the sound is anything but classical, though it draws on that world as well as Japanese and other Asian music and some of the newer cool pop sounds as well. A fast-paced, moving album, almost painful in its beauty—if Anna doesn't make you sit up and take notice, you must be too old to learn new tricks. (LP/MG)

PARTY AKIMBO, "Somewhere East of L.A." $6 from Primal Productions Inc., 408 Timber Branch Pkwy, Alexandria, VA 22302): These folks used to be Animal Logic, and put out a cool EP back in '86, but unfortunately lost the rights tot he name. No matter, they funky slightly metallic rock here is still fun. The title track is a bouncy perky romp, while their cover of "Fly Like an Eagle" is, well, odd. "I'll Talk You Into It" is also upbeat and fun. They've come up with an idiosyncratic sound, but one that grows likable very quickly. (T/MG)

SAL ROBERT PAUCIELLO. "The Spinal Cord Citizenship Blues Segue Music #2 (Experimental Improvisations)" ($5.00 from 9 Stanley St., Irvington, NJ 07111) Studio cutups self-described as "a new form of theosophic addition and subtraction", which includes a guide of pointer variables connecting the ten listed selections. These variables appear to relate to the flow of the material, which varies from abstracted sound exposition to short musical segments, tending to rhythmic pieces using guitar, drums and synth; Chinese bells & chimes and water drums are also heard. Sound experiments punctuate the music, but are frequently hissy and distorted. There appears to be an attempt to unify a number of elements with this tape, but the goal is not readily apparent. (T/PMZ)

AIDA PAVLETICH & NORMA TANEGA, "Ways Away" ($10 from Norma Tanega, Addictive Audio, 4111 Mt. Baldy Rd., Claremont, CA 91711): A collection of poetry by Aida set to music by Norma. Subjects run from obsessive love ("Photographs of You") to shipwrecks ("Captain's Log"). The music is fast-paced and jazzy, with lots of slick little touches and long intricate melodies. My favorite is "The Big One", a perky little number about the time after The Earthquake finally hits LA. Very different from most of what I hear, and very enjoyable. (T/MG)

PBK, "Thrill Pictures" (115 W. 33rd, San Bernardino, CA 92405): A two-tape selection of "repeating patterns, simple sequences & loops" from one of the masters of the field. Most of the bits here are fairly simple and fairly aggressive, with bursts of static and loud noises not uncommon. (There is a week bit of vocals at the very end of the set, but otherwise it is all synthetic/sampled). PBK grabs a theme, plays with it, takes a deep breath for a pause, and starts over again. A multi-layered journey through a stratum of mind where sounds become hardware. (2T/MG)

THE PEECOCKS, "Pussy Minstrel Show" b/w "Are You a Boy or Are You a Girl?" (Arf Arf, PO Box 860, East Dennis, MA 02641): Sloppy rock with a fun beat, but the lyrics bring it down considerably. Maybe they can argue that the misogyny and stereotyping here is all in fun, but it's pretty thick for that. Sounds more like insecure guys trying to justify their own skewed view of the world, where women get irrational once a month and men in tight pants are sexually suspect. (45/MG)

PENGUINS, "Go With the Floe" ($6.00 from Covert Music, PO Box 5868, Toledo, OH 46313): Pop music that draws from the 60's and 50's while updating and transforming the sound to more modern levels. I was consistently reminded at various points of an early XTC sound, though the songs lack the quirky qualities of that music. With instrumentation of guitar, keyboard, sax, drums and bass they have a nice sound overall, but fail to distinguish themselves in any unique way. A bit short with three songs per side coming in at about 25 minutes total. (T/PMZ)

AL PERRY AND THE CATTLE, "It's Your Grave! Can You Dig It?" (Sympathy for the Record Industry, 4901 Virginia Ave, Long Beach, CA 90805) Messed up countrified rock on mint green vinyl, Al Perry sings and plays guitar in this 4 piece band that includes "organ on LSD." "It's Your Grave (Can You Dig It?)" takes place over a sick harmonica-like guitar sound, led by a lopeing bass line. "Lower Sonoran Desert" has metal echo vocals over upbeat wierdness with a short dialog breaking in. Definitely not the finest rock I've heard, but a strange, fun little record. (45/PMZ)

DARRYL PESTILENCE, "Just Another Plague" ($3 from 249-2 Edwards St., Binghamton, NY 13901): Ranting over a sort of aimless bass line accompaniment, Darryl puts forth a lot of the punk world view. Mostly this is a negative message, hate for the cops and the politicians and the religious and most anyone else he can focus on. It has its moments, but overall seems a bit bloated. Needs tightening up to be really effective. (T/MG)

PGR, "Euphoria, Order and Chaos" (Silent Records, 540 Alabama #315, San Francisco, CA 94110): An arty EP, clear vinyl with a blank white label on one side and a blank black one on the other. PGR create an ambient music here using "prepared autoharp, pot lid, prepared guitar and syrup pan", coming up with a cross between SF soundtrack and far Eastern ambience. After a while it all begins to sound perfectly reasonable, and the stark angular tones become a part of the natural world. (EP/MG)

PITCHFORK, "Saturn Outhouse" (Nemesis. Write to 2015 Garnet Ave. Box 219, San Diego, CA 92019): A hardrocking 7" 33 that maintains a driving acoustic feeling. The band members are listed strumming, drumming, bassing and singing, which they do in a tight interactive way. "Thin Ice" is upbeat, with the drums mixed forward, while "Go At" has a darker sound with a strange bagpipe opening and a great bass sound. "Sinking" returns to the acoustic feel, transforming by degrees into burning rock. 'Stupid' lyrics have an open, stream of concious quality with interesting images, sung in a thin but expressive manner. In all, a satisfying seven inch; get it while it's still around. (7"/PMZ)

PLAN B, "The Greenhouse Effect" (RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): I caught a snippet of the video for one of the songs—"Beam Me Up, Scotty!"—a while ago, and was favorably impressed, but missed the credits, so I'm glad they sent me this album. Despite their German roots, Plan B are a hard-driving English-style rock band, in the mold of the Clash but with some of the polish of, say, Big Country. Whatever your favorite comparison, just think of music that makes you want to turn the volume up and dance around the room with your air guitar. Hot stuff. (CD/MG)

PLUSH ANGUS, "Plush Angus Gets Up!" ($3 from Andy Valeri, Big Beef Productions, 231 Medfford St., Dayton, OH 45410): A tape of raucous rock and slop from a band that seems to be pretty tongue in cheek. They seem to be having a darned good time jamming and ripping up cover versions ("Evolution Revolution" might offend some die-hard Beatles fans). The flip side of the tape has bonus selections from other Big Beef bands, including JA and The Electric Ferrets. (T/MG)

POETRY DEVILS, self-titled ($6 from 626 Kathryn Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87501): Robert Winson and Miriam Sagan read their poetry over neo-psychedelic, guitar-rock music of Brian S. Curley and his band 27 Devils Joking. The results are generally quite good—particularly Sagan's cynical dissection of middle-class dating practices "South End Blues" ("If I don't make love to you/I'll have to take a taxi home in the snow") and Winson's Jim Morrison act "Sometimes She Forgets", which really does come off like some lost Doors number thanks to Curley's bluesy accompaniment. The music, in fact, always complements the texts, never serving as mere background. An effective collaboration. (T/KS)

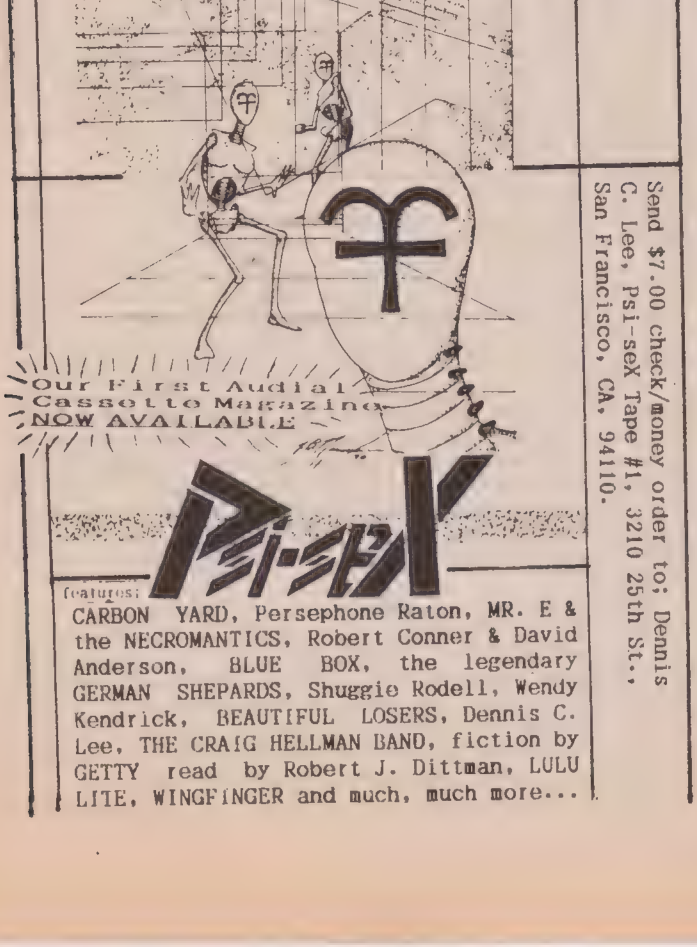
POINT NO POINT, self-titled ($6.50 check/MO from Optional Art, PO Box 22691, Seattle, WA 98122): Four guys with lots of guitars and lots of vocal harmonies playing somewhat folky rock—nice stuff, but certainly an anomaly for the home of Sub Pop. The band's music runs from gentle to intense, with mostly light lyrics that get lost in the maze of interlocking voices. (T/MG)

POISON IDEA, "Discontent" b/w "Jailhouse Stomp" (American Leather Records, PO Box 86333, Portland, OR 97286): Hardcore thrash punk with lyrics that try to defuse the notion that the band is a bunch of Nazis. Anyhow, "Discontent" should leave no doubt of the contempt they feel for the wannabe master race, and so now the fans can climb back in the pit and slam around to the gloriously noisy mix. (45/MG)

POLE MIST, "Palestine/Internal Bleeding" ($3 from Pole Mist, 562 Lyon, San Francisco, CA 94117): Politically and socially conscious experimental four- track noises with a Korg Synthesizer, sampler and vocal distortion. A spacy, eerie tape, and well worth checking out. (T/DW)

THE POPINJAYS, "Please Let me Go" (One Little Indian, 250 York Road, London SW11 3SJ, ENGLAND): Three women, lots of harmonies, not much more apparent form the record jacket. They do a slightly deranged slightly techno-pop thang, seemingly having a lot of fun, with three songs on this 12" 45, including "Helicopter People" and "Fine Lines" as well as the title cut, which has a musical/sampled interlude that seems to poke some fun at modern canned dance music. (EP/MG)

THE POWER PLAGUES, "Jesus Is Coming Soon" (Bob Z., c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): The Power Plagues is Bob Z again, getting ready to take his show on the road with some more backing. The production is cleaner than on some of his solo tapes, and there's a bit more electric guitar, but basically the songs are the same: "Girl In Flaming Underpants", "Shopping Mall Fiends of Suburbia" and "Poster Cop", for example, are all on this tape. (T/MG)



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PRAIRIE OYSTER, "Different Kind of Fire" (RCA, 30 Music Sq. W., Nashville, TN 37203): We don't get a lot of country music to review here ((yet!) so it's hard to draw fine distinctions. This is definitely country, though, despite its Canadian origins, and seems to speak of honkytonks and good times rather than being mired in the "my wife left me and my cow's sick" school of songwriting (though they do have a few wistful tracks). A change of pace, and one I didn;t mind at all. (T/MG)

PRESSUREHEAD, "No Sleep" ($3 from Steve Kaplan, 295 Ashley Dr., Rochester, NY 14620): A slow-paced hardcore demo from a bit more upstate than I am. Their opening song, called simple "Pressurehead", is a strong beginning, demanding to know whether the listener too feels this boiling inside that threatens to burst the skull. Things lighten up a bit after that, and there's less range than I would like, but that one song shows definite promise. (T/MG)

Psi-seX #1 ($7 from Dennis C. Lee, 3210 25th St., San Francisco, CA 94110): The first issue of a new cassette magazine that presents a mix of music, poetry, and rants. Wendell Wilkinson's "Yog-Sothoth" sheds some new light on the Cthulhu mythos, while the Beautiful Losers create some eerie sounds. There's an interview with prankster Scary Gary about some public access media with a difference, and experimental work from Dennis Lee. A good mix. (T/MG)

PUBLIC ENEMY, "Fear of a Black Planet" (Columbia Records, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): Well, the new Public Enemy LP is finally out, and no doubt much discussion will center around the parental advisory sticker and the band's politics. Personally, I'm more interested in whether I can appreciate a new musical idiom—and the answer to that is definitely yes. Tracks like "Welcome to the Terrordome" and "Fight the Power" have an addictive beat, complex instrumentation that makes good use of technology as well as talent, and the spirit of rebellion that is the heart of much good music of the last three decades. So what's the problem? None, as far as I'm concerned; they'll hit my turntable again in the future. (LP/MG)

"A Quicksilver Smile"/"Pillars of the World" ($9 from The Other Americas Radio, PO Box 85, Santa Barbara, CA 93102): A pair of documentaries from the "Pollution Solutions" series, sponsored by the Earth Island Institute. "Quicksilver Smile" looks at the mounting evidence that mercury amalgam fillings in your mouth are harmful; the ADA's defense is pretty unconvincing. "Pillars of the World" takes a systems approach to rainforest destruction, going beyond blaming slash-and-burn agriculture to consider the economic pressures from the first world that fuel the process. Well-done and informative. (T/MG)

JOANNE RAND, "Choosing Sides" ($11 tape or $16 CD from Homefire Productions, 4307 Big Flat Rd., Crescent City, CA 95531): Acoustic guitar, piano and Joanne's own no-nonsense voice combine to make this a very strong release of social and environmental protest. The standout is "Koyaanisqatsi", a warning for the future, though "Antarctica" also comes in strong. It's not all gloom and doom, but there' a thread of classical protest against privilege and exploitation which runs throughout this release. Folkie integrity. (CD/MG)

RAPSCALLION, "Gardens of Machinery" (Red Decibel, 2541 Nicollet Ave, Minneapolis, Minn. 55404) Metal tinged hard rock with a mildly funky sound and up front vocals. The lyrics carry a sense of destruction and despair; most have a level of ambiguity that seems to bypass my initial notions of what the song is about. The band plays tightly; the songs, while not particularly innovative or unique, are dynamic and complex; the solos and vocal sound are all metal. (T/PMZ)

RASH PANZER, "Rock N' Roll Street" (Twin Vision Management, 50 W. 34th St. #17C7, New York, NY 10001): Hard slightly metallic rock with a reasonable amount of power and polish behind it. While their remake of "AC/DC" doesn't add anything to the original (except some falsetto), some of their own songs, notable "Get Down!", fare better as guitar fests worth a listen. (T/MG)

RB AND THE UNSEEN, "Right Mind" ($5 from Upstairs Productions, 1119 Woodstock Ave., Toledo, OH 43607): Light rock music led by keyboards that range from gently melodic to a sort of manic carnival sound. A home production, but one done with care, and it's pleasant to listen to. A few of the tracks here are sort of flat, but generally the sound is a charming one. (T/MG)

REALITY SCARE, self-titled ($4 from Greg Booth, PO Box 805494, Chicago, IL 60680-4119): Beatbox rhythms drive this one-man four-track show, but dance music it ain't. Euro-disco keyboards and cartoon-like bass lines complement well-juxtaposed samples (Kate Bush and Monty Python, among others) with frequently hilarious results. The title cut has a killer riff, and there are other moments of musical worth, but Greg's listless vocals and preachy lyrics are a real minus. Decent. (T/KS)

RENEGADE SOUNDWAVE, "Soundclash" (Enigma, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Electronically enhanced reggae/funk-rock with a variety of unexpected sounds filling its 24 tracks. A couple of these tracks (notably "Space Gladiator") have enough new wave spin on them to be hard to "get", lacking in anchor points—but after a few listens its hard to see how we did without this band. Probably too technoid for some folks, but great music for hard-driving, hard-partying neophiles. (T/MG)

REPTILICUS, "Temperature of Blood" (HEL, PO Box 9192, 129 Reykjavik, ICELAND): Synthetic sampled eerie cyberpunk audio splatter music from Iceland. They put together a very nice sonic experience here, with lyrics that are sort of in English, though their coherence level is not high. Some pieces are antsy sound collages, others more structures songs. There are both live and studio pieces here. HEL will send you a catalog for an IRC; this is a new label worth checking out. (T/MG)

REST IN PIECES, "Advance Sampler Cassette" (Road Racer, 225 Lafayette St. Suite 709, NY, NY 10012): Three song advance sampler heavy metal cassette from a band billed as a "well know force in the NY hardcore scene... geared up to attack the crossover/metal market." I don't hear the hardcore as such, but metal this is. Grinding guitars with straight forward rhythm accompaniment and quick flashy solos drive these songs which, though they have their moments, are for the most part too plodding in the heavy metal vein for my ears. (T/PMZ)

REVERB MOTHER FUCKERS, "Twelve Swinging Signs of the Zodiac" ($7 from Rave Records, PO Box 40075, Philadelphia, PA 19106): A godlike release with plenty of guitar FX, fuzz, feedback, bits of old movies, and other surprises laid into a track of sheer outright attack. The titles range from "Hanoi Hilton" to "Love Juice (In All Three Holes)" and the assault here is rivaled by few other bands. Goes to the desert island with me for sure. (LP/MG)

DAN RHETORIC, "Mind Your Step" (Flamco, 10 Park Terr. E #2E, New York, NY 10034): There's a sense of tension about this synth-soaked rock that leads one to thoughts of *Blade Runner* and other over-tech dystopias. Minor-key whines, lyrics that grind in like a jackhammer, and a sort of film noir ambience all contribute to this state of affairs, in which the tape can program the mind for a paranoid view of the world. Take in small doses only. (T/MG)

PAWNEE RIBBER, "Danamania" (PO Box 255, Monticello, NY 12701): Another collage of sound bits from all over. Ribber draws on talk radio, old movies, answering machine messages, and who knows what else to put together these medleys of modern civilization. Includes everything from snippets of music to people calling other people names to distraught and angry parents on the phone, in rapid-fire succession. (T/MG)

MARY RICHARDS, "Peaceful Journey" ($9.95 from Master Your Mind, 881 Hawthorne Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94596): Actually, Richards is credited as the one who "conceptualized" this music; the journeyman work of composing and playing is by Wayne Musgrave. Whoever is responsible, this is gentle New Age music, keyed for relaxation, with thickets of strings over gentle melodies and easy development. About one step removed from elevator music. (T/MG)

RIPPED, "Temporary Insanity" ($5 from 1101 Browning Ave., N. Canton, OH 44720): There are times when I wonder whether CFCs are really the only thing responsible for the destruction of the ozone layer—surely music like this must contribute as well. Ripped are on the edge of hardcore and metal (they call it "crypticore", and play with a screaming intensity. "The Sky Is Falling" is one of the stronger anti-pollution songs I've heard lately, and I'd like to hear more from this crunchy band. (T/MG)

RISE ABOVE, self-titled ($5 ppd from Punk Etc., PO Box 41, B-1800 Vilvoorde, BELGIUM): Belgian straghtedge hardcore punk with English lyrics and a strongly melodic through still fast sound. Pick of the litter on this 3-song EP is :What It Is!", all about the scene and with the chorus "Unity is Bullshit". (EP/MG)

ROOSEVELT, demo tape (Ballard Lesemann, 197 B Oglethorpe Ave., Athens, GA 30606): A three-piece with a sound that's heavy on the bass and somewhere between punk and southern fried rock. They get into down and dirty playing, with touches of guitar work that spark at least a few moments' interest. Rough-hewn as yet. (T/MG)

CARL ROSEN, "Firelands" (Time Zone Recordings, PO Box 23533, Mint Hill Sta., Charlotte, NC 28212): College rock somewhat reminiscent of lighter Springsteen pieces, ranging from the socially-conscious and delicately haunting "China Bleeds" to the somewhat silly love song "Genevieve". Rosen's vocals and piano blend with an unassuming guitar and percussion background to make music that is more pretty than powerful. (CD/MG)

ALEXANDER ROSS, "Grandfather Paradox" (Generations Unlimited, 199 Strathmore #5, Brighton, MA 02135): With its fairly unusual approach to unsettling sonic storytelling, this piece is acutely sounds oriented and beyond electronic. Dense, bubbling layers of instruments and tapes/samples anxiously (almost hedonistic) evolve and digress, forcefully negating any sort of rigidity, of expressiveness. Ross' varied styles and applications may seem mind boggling, and to demand close attention, but the pronounced transformative effects are a damn godly payoff. My type of brain chow. (T/JCM)

MITCH RUSHTON, "The Bridges of Time" (Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661) Electronic compositions somewhat in a Synergy/Tangerine Dream mold. Pieces are built on synth/organ progressions with repeating bass lines and/or drum beats that climax with layered string-like tones playing above. While the overall sound is fine, the pieces have a methodical sameness in approach that becomes obvious by the end of the second side; only one pieces has an honest solo to focus on, and that is provided by guest Maz Mitenke. The mix promotes the repetitive aspects of the music, so much of the subtlety of the compositions is lost. (T/PMZ)

MITCH RUSHTON, "Trans-Siberian" (Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): A synthetic interpretation of the longest continuous rail journey in the world, in a series of movements running from the windswept Moscow terminus to the gulls over the Sea of Japan. The rhythm of the rails ties it together, though not intrusively, as long languorous notes portray the breadth of the Russian landscape. A soothing tape for late nights. (T/MG)

GREG SAGE AND THE WIPERS, "Best of" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): A compilation of material from Sage's solo album as well as all the Wipers' material from 1977 to 1989. Some of it, especially the early cuts, is pretty flat. But the punk/country flavored "Romeo" does stand out, as does "Losers Town" which has a clean appealing punk grit to it. Unfortunately there are no liner notes at all, not even a listing of which cut is from which album, which is a bit of a disservice to the new listener looking to put this material into perspective. (CD/MG)

SAMIAM, "Underground" (802 Colusa, Berkeley, CA 94707): Formed from the remains of several Bay Area bands, Samiam (say Sam-I-Am): plays a good grinding Minuteman/Husker Du brand of rock. With a pronounced lack of flash, this band plays quickly changing, grinding melodic chord progressions, reinforced by intelligent, interactive drumming. The lyrics deal with personal issues and viewpoints honestly, the throaty vocals sung with conviction

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and strength. Their letter says "no one know us... we don't even know us. But we like us, & so will loads of people one day." I sincerely hope so. (LP/PMZ)

SANITY ASSASSINS, "Blow Torch Love Doll" ($3 from Dagger Tapes, PO Box 380152, East Hartford, CT 06138-0152): Fast-paced garage rock with Adam Bomb providing appropriately-credited "guitar noise". In particular his work in "Take Up Thy Stethoscope And Walk" deserves a careful listen, as it carries the song along in a panting, frenzied fashion. Watch for future releases from this three-piece. (45/MG)

SCARLET DROPS, "Moose Power A-Go-Go" (Reg, PO Box 15983, Merivale Depot, Nepean, ONT, K2C 3S8, CANADA): The cover of this tape features the Canadian Prime Minister being sexually assaulted by a moose—their response to hunting season. The music is sort of pop/punk crossover, with the best cuts featuring tradeoff vocals between Dan and Debbie. There's some gentle social messages here, but mostly pretty clean music, played with feeling. (T/MG)

SCATTERBRAIN, "Here Comes Trouble" (In-Effect, 187 Henderson, Hollis, NY 88561-3012): More fast, funny, post-hardcore neo-metal from the label that brought 24-7 Spyz to light. Scatterbrain's adolescent antics counterpoint skillful guitarwork and slick arrangements for rowdy irreverent fun: covers of Cheech and Chong's "Earache My Eye" and Mozart's "Sonata #3"—together at last! "Down With the Ship (Slight Return)" dredges up every stale classic rock guitar riff you can think of, to boisterous effect. "Don't Call Me Dude" even has doowop vocals, Dead Milkmen fans are bound to get a kick out of the sense of humor. Great cover art by Robert Williams, too. (T/KF)

SCHNELL-FENSTER, "The Sound of Trees" (Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Unusual rock from a group mainly composed of remnants of Split Enz, though their sound (especially on the album-closing "Never Stop" reminds me more of an Aussie version of Talking Heads. They go in for complex melodies, solid playing, vocal harmony and interplay—in general, music of depth, that stands up to repeated listenings, accessible yet not a complete sell-out. (T/MG)

SCREAMING SIRENS, "Voodoo" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Campy bad-girl rock revolving around the vocals of Pleasant Gehman, who can go from seductive to threatening in an instant. They play a blend of cow-punk and garage noise, with the emphasis on having a good itme. "This is My Home" and "I've Got the Love" are among the hot tracks on this album. They know how to be harmonic without losing their edge. (CD/MG)

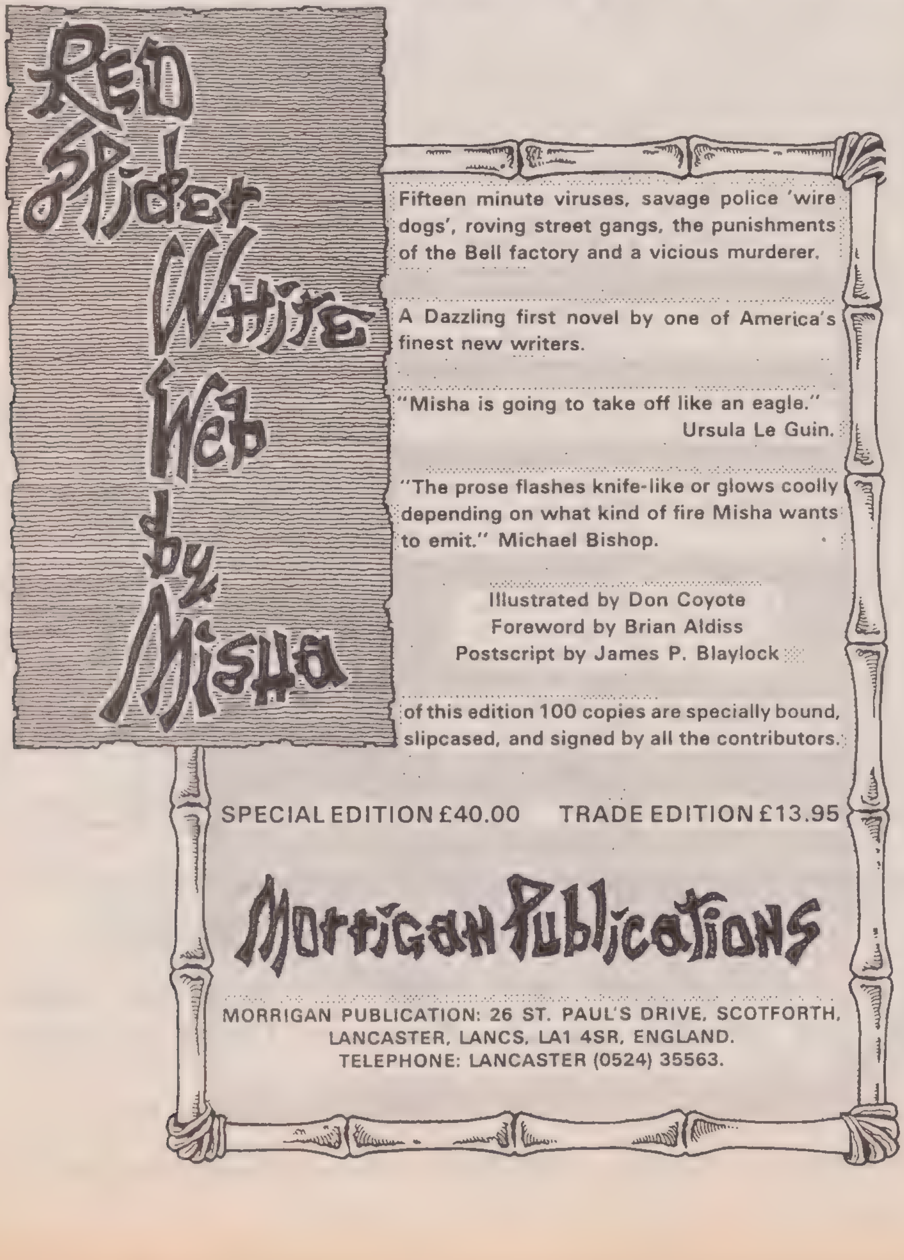
"The Screwtape Letters" ($15.95 from Audio Literature, Inc., 325 Corey Way #112, South San Francisco, CA 94080): A slightly abridged version of C.S. Lewis's classic work on the capture of souls by the devil, read by John Cleese. The work takes the form of a series of letters from Screwtape, a somewhat senior demon, ton his nephew Wormwood, who is busy trying to get hold of a man's soul on Earth. Cleese makes a lovely Screwtape, capturing perfectly the misanthropic and blindered viewpoint which Lewis ascribed to this character. Three hours of intrigue and lessons that are fun even if you don't have any intent of converting. (2T/MG)

SEKIRI, self-titled (Public Bath, PO Box 2134, Madison, WI 53701) Sekiri (pronounced secky D.) is a 4 girl Japanese band that plays riff based rock with a hard edged sound. The band formed in '83 when they were 13 years old, and have since developed an underground following in Japan. What distinguishes this band in Japan will not be readily apparent this side of the language barrier: songs like "Fuck Shiyou [Let's Fuck]" or "Kusuri Tengoku [Medication Heaven]" lose much of their bite without translation. Even the name of the band, which means 'dysentery,' is lost here in the West. Still, an infectious song like "Suima" stands on its own, and the overall sound of this record is that of good rock. (7"/PMZ)

SEMINAL MAN, "Christfuck" ($1 from Xerox Death c/o Spencer Sunshine, 205 Dogwood Dr., Lawrenceville, GA 30245): As the title might suggest, this is punk rock. It's also rather minimalist, sporting only bass, vocals, and percussion that might charitably be called "pounding". Smarmy and homegrown, with little to recommend it other than the fact that it represents more creativity than the average young dude has. (T/MG)

STEPHEN SHEEHAN, "Eyes of the Wilderness" (Post-Ambient Motion, 5402 Camden Ave., Omaha, NE 68104): Euro-rock from an unlikely place, namely Omaha , Nebraska. This album is an import from the French New Rose label, and it fits just fine, with a squeaky-clean sound, lots of rhythm, and a few somewhat noisy/ambient tracks. At times, as with "Love or Lust", Sheehan embodies an almost mechanistic approach to music, selecting elements from the factory and machine as his building blocks. Other tracks are simply danceable. (LP/MG)

SHRINKING VIOLETS, "Shrinking V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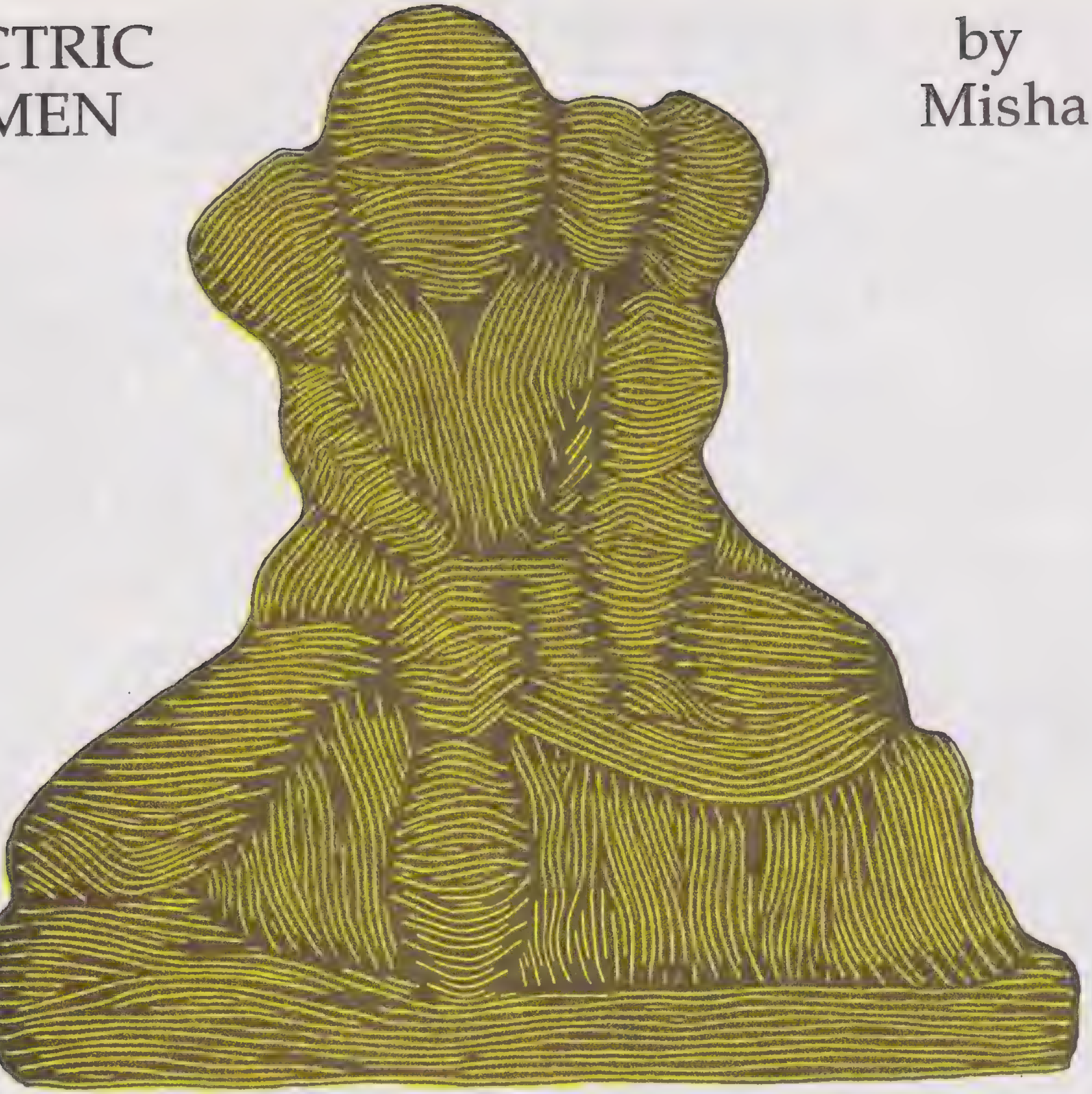
ELECTRIC RAMEN

by
Misha



Tightly wrapped wires interweave over his black face. This is what he smears on the mirror. Himself as alec. Smart alec. Mouth wires twitch. White wires snap, searing heat. His fibrous undergarment keeps his clothes from incinerating off of his body. His last day on the job.

He layers on his leather jacket, thick with creases and reeking with mink oil. Glides out into garbage pail city. The strip. Nothing but rusted rails and chips of amber glass to greet him. His breath steams out of his burning throat. His boots crunch on the metal road.

Night horse. He's the only one in the office with a cycle. His smoke-colored sportster nuzzles assertively into the traffic. The tired morning sun glinting off the low-gloss finish. A miserable office in liver brown. Inside, mauve, cubicles barren of laughter or life, a chair, a desk, a file drawer, the gummy eye of the terminal. He unscrews the cap of the metal thermos. The scalding liquid slides over his tongue. Burns in his throat. He rips into a pink packet of sugar. Sprinkles a minuscule line of white crystals from the corner, circling the office. The ants come almost immediately. Soon a whole line of ants surround his desk.

He stands back and watches six legs fighting through bristling fibers of the carpet. Trapped here, seeking out the small grains of white sugar. The ceaseless and pointless marching mimicing his bureaucratic existence. He waves to their antennae, but realizes he is a problem too big to be seen.

He edges around the corner to greet his co-workers. They grimace at their reflections in his smoke-tinted face. He feels for the tiny replicas of themselves regurgitating acid coffee and donuts rigid with grease. Brass keys click on their backs, rotating a little off rhythm due to the tightness of the morning spring. They'd run down later.

He loops his insulated cabling back on himself, plugging his power from wall socket to wall socket. A ramen noodle man of hot cold running wire, his temporal form just a bent shadow against the molding.

He slips down the corridor to his branch managers office. Peers in at the usual horror. The BM down on his hands and knees, lapping canned pie cherries explosively expelled from the behinds of higher management.

Black ramen uncoiling in the defecating steam, sensing their unbearable shame, slaps his palm on the burnt chrome panel. Sulfur yellow and brown fumes wheel into the room, bounce across the floor in chinese blossoms of sparks and whistles. Ignite the syrupy carpet. Pray for the small pockets of fire that singe the jaws of global bureaucracy, wasp words a stinging hot wind on the world's loneliness.

Ramen, a nest of wires, vaults onto his cycle, a flower of smoke, black vibration spinning onto the void of roads. An angel of smoke speed steel pipes smoke heat tar death mercy, the disgrace of the living, smoldering behind him.

Ranch" ($3 from Bangaway Productions c/o Zak Sitter, 1460 Cornell Rd., Atlanta, GA 30306): Super low-budget monaural recording with the sound of a telephone ringing quite audible on one track that they didn't even bother to redo. SV is two women with guitars and autoharp, the nostalgic sound of the latter adding some interest to their simple melodies. The vocals are pretty some of the time, but slip off into strident when trying for power. All in all, a very unpolished release. (T/MG)

SIN CITY DISCIPLES, "Down and Dirty" ($10 or so from Tad Kepley, PO Box 401721, Brooklyn, NY 11240): Bluesy, mostly slow-paced rock and roll from Kansas City. The packaging and promo here is pretty minimalistic, leaving the music to stand on its own—which it does. Swampy harmonica combines with gravelly vocals and juggernaut guitars to produce archetypical Midwest blues/rock. (LP/MG)

SKI-A-DELICS, "We Are What You Eat" ($8 from Greg Wildes, 42 Atherton St., Roxbury, MA 02119): This band is built around a gimmick: the electric ski, a ski outfitted with piano wire, a pickup, and various objects to bash it with. With half a dozen of these and various other instruments they produce a sound that ranges from structured industrial to jazz with a difference. Check out "Al Capone's Tooth", a ten-minute narrative with otherworldly musical backing. (T/MG)

SKIN YARD, "Fist Sized Chunks" (Cruz Records, PO Box 7756, Long Beach, CA 90807): Skin Yard have a strong and somewhat scary sound, sort of space rock meets Sub Pop. They can lay down plenty of noise when they want to, and yet are fond of riffs that echo endlessly between the ears and just noodling around. There's an air of ritual about this album, as if the band were cranked up to play for some secret meaning that only they knew. (T/MG)

SLAP OF REALITY, "Stuck Inside" (Vinyl Communications, PO Box 8623, Chula Vista, CA 92012): This has everything a solid hardcore effort should have: energy, guts, aggression and heaviness. And that's the beauty and the beast of this one. All five tracks are solid, and crunch-laden, but nothing about any of it stands out to make it particularly memorable. It's representative of a mass movement of like-minded workingman's core bands, and like the masses (in theory, that is) no one stands out, but everyone gets a fair shake. (7" EP/TG)

SMACK TAN BLUE, "Jenni Lee" b/w "Heroin For Breakfast" (Arf Arf, PO Box 860, East Dennis, MA 02641): Downbeat fuzzy rock with loser lyrics. The B side is the better here, the song of someone who really doesn;t give a damn about life any more. Domingo Barreres has the right vocals to pull this off, roughened by whiskey and cigarettes (or else natural talent) and Jim Thompson plays a mean lead guitar. (45/MG)

SMILING APE, self-titled (Bruce Edwards Sacks, One Fox Chase Dr., Harrisburg, PA 17111): A five-song demo from this garage band. Their music is heavy on guitar/bass interplay and use of the wah-wah pedal, and their lyric sense is a bit skewed—how else to explain "underground jim morrison surf nazi"? Not too spectacular, but a solid effort. (T/MG)

CINDY SMITH, "Out West" ($10 from 188 E. 7th Ave., Chico, CA 95926): Folky western music and, yes, the title track is about Chuck Shepherd's **OUT WEST** the newspaper. Other fun bits here include a pair of hobo songs, the slightly ribald and guerilla feminist "Kissing Song", and the all-whistled version of "Stars and Stripes Forever". Guitar and good humor make this a winner. (T/MG)

AZALIA SNAIL, self-titled (Albertine records, PO Box 154, Vauxhall, NJ 07088): The only thing wrong with this red-vinyl record is that it isn't long enough. Three songs is barely enough time to appreciate Azalia's hip psychedelic/folk guitar work and pretty voice. "Another Slave Labour Day" is my favorite here, an anti-work blast with verve. "Savoirfairian Frog Call", closing out the record, is strange, with a rhythmic clatter as if the whole band had been dumped in a washing machine. (45/MG)

SOCKEYE, "A Year in the Live" ($3.45 from David Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224) Live recordings and radio bits from this sloppy garage band, recorded during 1989, and interspersed with a radio interview from November, 1989. The insert describes them as "one of lousiest live bands ever," that the faithful few flock to "hoping to take part in the patented Sockeye mess-making." A mess this is, but a fun kind of dirty mess that, taken in small segments, is kind of enjoyable. Covers include tunes by the Butthole Surfers, Scratch Acid, Feederz, Hendrix, and GG. Allin. (T/PMZ)

SOMETHING BIG, "14 Songs No Waiting" ($6 from Dan Fediman, 2460 Grinstead Dr. #2, Louisville, KY 40204): Pleasant pop and light rock from a Louisville group that seems ready for commercial success. Their songs are for the most part sweet and simple, with much-repeated refrains and basic ideas about love and life. Vocalist Gediman is the core of the group, and he's obviously in love with the music, as his voice radiates sincerity over a changing field of guitars. (T/MG)

SORE THROAT, "Never Mind the Napalm...Here's Sore Throat", ($6.98 from Weasel Records, PO Box 1274, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266) Excellent hardcore release packaged as a Sex Pistols record. This driving thrashcore relentlessly burns through 16 cuts, stopping for a narrative on US vs. Soviet airstrike strategies that's somewhat disturbing. Vocals are mostly sung in a deep screaming strangled voice that I can only describe as the ape from hell; I couldn't understand very much, but I knew it was pissed. The second side is prepared to snap your stylus with a pretty etching of a skeleton that just removed someone's head. (LP/PMZ)

THE SPACE NEGROS, "Too Much Talk" b/w "Son of Texas Chainsaw Massacre—Part V" (Arf Arf, PO Box 860, East Dennis, MA 02641): More screwball fun from Erik Lindgren and company. The A side is perhaps more of a chant than a song, drilling "Too Much Thought/Not Enough Action" in amidst repetitive dance music. The flip puts together chainsaw noises and spine-shredding beats to lend a bit of terror to the bowels. Off the beaten path by a long shot. (45/MG)

THE SPORTING BACHELORS, "Love Letters to Joanna" (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): The Joanna of the title is Joanna Storm, porn star who also poses on the cover of this album. Unlike Chemical People, who use similar cover shots, this band actually is a part of the adult movie industry, with several soundtracks to their credit. Their work here is large-caliber garage rock, heavy on the guitars and with a sort of frat boy attitude to it, made to be cranked up and enjoyed with a beer and a sex film on the video. (LP/MG)

ST37, "From Space w/Love" (SPASMS cassettes, 504 W. 24th #87, Austin TX 78705) From Texas, somewhere between the Butthole Surfers and Mofungo, comes this odd experimental band. The music is dynamic and driving, but retains an acoustic feel to it; instrumentation including two synth players, and the addition of tapes, effects and odd percussive devices creates a uniquely complex layered sound. Over the tumult strong, clear vocals yelp and howl through bizzare stream of concious lyrics, evoking some powerful images that leave much to the imagination. Highlights include "Voice in the Closet," "Retz (Capitol of Venus)" and "Joking Car Asshole;" the first side is stronger that the second, but overall impressive. (T/PMZ)

THE STINGERS, "My Home Isn't In This World" (Twin Vision, 50 W. 34th St. #17C7, New York, NY 10001): Light garage gospel rock with plenty of piano and horn touches that give it an expansive feel. Mainly a concept album, following a feeling of rootlessness until religion steps in to anchor the vocals. There's a mild college sound here, and a polish that almost makes the message slide right by. (CD/MG)

ST. LUTHER, "Toki-Lore" ($6 from PO Box 371, Miamisburg, OH 45342): Christian-centered punk-influenced rock, with a foreboding sound made a bit darker by a bass-heavy mix that didn't do much for me. Their songs are mostly overtly religious, condemning pagans and warning people to repent before it's too late. There are a few political tracks as well, but even these—as with "Taxman's Teaparty" tend to have religious overtones. (T/MG)

THE SUBJECTS, "Word of God" (2 World Productions, 6252 S. Rosebury #3, St. Louis, MO 63105): More light-to-medium intensity industrial dance music. That old favorite, the crackpot radio preacher ("You're gonna be da-da-da-dadada-damned...") gets the standard sampling treatment in all three title cut mixes, but the B-side "Quickshot" jumps out with muted, fierce funk guitarwork and sinister "urban violence" soundbites. Maybe the forthcoming album will have a better hit-to-miss ratio. (EP/KS)

SUN CITY GIRLS, "You're Never Alone With A Cigarette" (Majora Records, PO Box 78418, Seattle, WA 98178): Two fast-paced guitar instrumentals, full of freshness and energetic playing. There's an almost mideastern flavor to "100 Lbs. of Black Olives", a mutant guitar turning into a bazouki. I wonder whether "The Fine Tuned Machines of Lemuria" similarly encompasses racial memories of long-drowned string instruments. (45/MG)

A SUBTLE PLAGUE, "Inheritance" (Heyday Records, PO Box 411332, San Francisco, CA 94141-1332): Complex multiphonic percussive dance music. Other critics have heard everything from punk to jazz to hardcore to big bands here, and who am I to add to the stew? My main impression is that this is quirky, pop with an industrial edge, intriguing music with bits of trumpet and congas showing up at the oddest moments, and a great record. (LP/MG)

SUPERFICIALS, "Skin Deep" (4326 SE Woodstock, PO Box 395, Portland, OR 97206): Half-studio, half-live recordings from this somewhat alternative rock band. The studio recordings are uninspiring, but the live stuff, although loose and sloppy, show some promise as it combines cast-off Zeppelin riffs with some faster thrashing numbers. (T/MG)

SURVIVAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES, "Illusions of Shameless Abundance Degenerating into an Uninterrupted Sequence of Hostile Encounters" ($7.00 from Survival Research Laboratories, 1458-C San Bruno Ave, San Francisco, CA 94110) The soundtrack for a machine performance staged in May, 1989, this is a collage of metallic, active sounds with overdubbed conversations which are, for the most part, unintelligible. The soundtrack itself was a performance using microphones, tapes and effects with interactive mixing. By the end of the b side I'd grown a bit weary, particularly with what appeared to be, if you will, alternate mixes. This may be just noise to some, but in the right frame of mind this could be quite frightening. (T/PMZ)

TAD, "Salt Lick" (Sub Pop, 1932 1st Ave. #1103, Seattle, WA 98101): Tad plays every song as if there'd been a bomb threat called in to the studio and they're intent on laying down *just one more track* before rushing for the street, where they'll pop the top on a Bud and set back to watch the fireworks. Driven by Tad's own Monster of Rock vocals and frenzied guitar, they lash together six tracks here which share an utter disregard for conventions of melody and a straining, dangerous quality like a pack of wild dogs ready to break loose on the audience. An experience, though whether it's a musical one is up for question. (EP/MG)

THE TALL TALES, demo tape (Blue Lunch Records, 150 6th Ave., Troy, NY 12180): A four-song tape of slightly demented rock that sounds like its musicians are perhaps a few cards short of a full deck. It's not any particular thing, not even the lyrics of "Broken Public Telephones", but an overall feeling that something strange and violent might happen at any moment. Interesting. (T/MG)

TAPE, ($2.00 from 465 3rd SE, Huron, SD 57350) Anonymous and generic release of unlikely cover tunes (unlikely by selection or interpretation) without cassette shell or insert sleeve. Covers include The Archies "Sugar Sugar," an abstracted "Candy Man," and "Another Brick in the Wall" with Pee Wee's Playhouse overdubbed throughout. The music, which is played with guitar, bass, synth and drum machine, is frequently heavy-handed and almost awkwardly angular, but there are some good moments here; with 45 minutes of music for two bucks, it's hard to complain much. (T/PMZ)

VIC TAYBACK, "Turning Point" ($2 from Stungus, PO Box 6963, San Mateo, CA 94403): "Based on events between February 2nd and 3rd 1990", this tape is a medley of noise, sampling, and distorted vocals. Plenty of wild synths, lots of static, and the occasional driving rhythm that gets under the skin. Pretty private stuff—at least there are no obvious interpretations. (T/MG)

TECHNAUSEA, "Unsafe and Insane" ($2 from Matt Cornell, Stungus Music, PO Box 6963, San Mateo, CA 94403): It's pretty rare for me to come across a work of music so bad that I think I could have done as well myself. This is definitely one of those rarities. As far as I can tell, I possess everything necessary to recreate this tape: a Casio with built-in rhythms and simple tunes, a few things to pound on, a voice that can't carry a tune, and a complete lack of musical talent. (T/MG)

TELESCOPE BOWMEN, "Acquire The Earth (3832 E. Sycamore Ave., Orange, CA 92669): "Post-Modern psychedelic pure pop". That self-description is as close as anything for this very textured music, with lots of guitars and fine vocals from Amie Bovee. Some of the songs here fall over the cliff into pretentiousness (the closing "Hoffy's Dream" is too Beatlesesque for my taste) but for the most part this is solid, entertaining stuff. A self-produced effort that should go a long way towards landing them the label interest they're after. (CD/MG)

THE TELLING, "Blue Solitaire" (Music West, 1000 Fourth St. #800, San Rafael, CA 94901): Moody music in something of the vein of the Cowboy Junkies, though even more removed from the pop/rock mainstream. Mostly this seems to be a vehicle for the voice of Sheri Swenson, who recalls Kate Bush pretty strongly. Husband Don Swenson is responsible for guitars and keyboards, and they sprinkle more esoteric instruments (dulcimer, oboe, French Horn) here and there. Almost too self-consciously melancholy and lovely. (CD/MG)

TENDER FURY, "Garden of Evil" (Triple X Records, 6715 Hollywood Blvd. #284, Hollywood, CA 90028): Rather melodic and even a bit wimpy metallic music. The songs are tense and generally downbeat, but they don't try to blast the listener away with sheer guitar power. Rather, they interweave the guitars with the rest of the sound, producing songs where you can actually hear the lyrics. Not real exciting, but definitely off the beaten path. (LP/MG)

THELEMONADE RETROSPECTIVE, "Gaia's House" ($4 from We Press, PO Box 1503, Santa Cruz, CA 95061): Guitars, poetry, and somewhat New Wavoid electronic effects combine to make listening to this band a rather eerie experience. They loop swoopingly from place to place, laying down intricate textures of words and surrounding them with alien, other-cultural musics. Decidedly intriguing. (T/MG)

THIRD RAIL, "Happyland Inferno" ($3 from PO Box 11462, Berkeley, CA 94701): This band is fronted by Sperry, who's been doing close to the bone spoken word stuff and chapbooks for a while now. The music is dark and ominous and fits his style well, blending with words about losing it or being a casualty or having a "cinderblock soul". Poetry for a cruel world. (T/MG)

THOSE ONE GUYS, demo tape (415 S. Filmore, Edwardsville, IL 62025): A pretty standard demo, with a dozen or so songs and substandard sound quality. They have a sort of shaggy dog sense of humor which shows through on songs like "Lethal Erection" and "Coke". The music is Midwest rock, with perhaps a few punk changes thrown in, and not terribly complex. (T/MG)

THREE WOMEN IN BLACK, self-titled Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): Even though there's only one woman in this band—the idiosyncratic-sounding Micheline—this is still one of the better things Dionysus has put out. Apart from the Sex Pistols cover, which seems beyond them , this EP is solid garage-punk, with strong guitar work and a darkness that befits the name. (EP/MG)

THROBMONSTER MC'S, "Fresh as Shit" (Vague Records, 20 Sprague Ave. Apt. 2, Cranston, RI 02910): White rap of an ill recording, this is beat box rap with guitar and bass. The vocals are ok, and a line occassionally popped out that drew a laugh ('I Love Her Nose,' 'My Monster Pal'), but the music would quickly draw me back to the feeling that something wasn't quite right here. The recording itself doesn't help, as both the original recordings and the cassette copy at times break up. With handwritten credits on the flimsy inner sleeve, I don't know what kind of distribution they anticipate. (T/PMZ)

THUNDERHEAD, "Behind the Eight-Ball" (Enigma, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Hard rock, very slick, unfortunately also somewhat sterile. The songs here are bombasts about love and angst and feeling alienated from the world, dressed up with an appropriate attack of guitars, but it just doesn't click. Sounds more like a band that people would expect to make big than one that really will. (T/MG)

TOOBA BLOOZE, self-titled (I Wanna Records, c/o Jim Carter, PO Box 166, Wright Bro. Sta., Dayton, OH 45409): This is *great*. Yes, there's a tuba here, as well as guitars, harmonica, raucous crowds singing along, and a wonderful sense of the bizarre. Amazingly enough, it all works, and "Greedy Mr. Creed" is one of my favorite songs of the decade so far. If you have any interest in new and fun sounds, you definitely have to check this album out. Folk rock and punk meet the tuba, and a good time is had by all. (LP/MG)

TRAGIC MULATTO, "Chartreuse Toulouse" ($7.50 from Alternative Tentacles, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101): The band says this record is for folks who like "loud nakedness, refried beans & sleazy tubas"—all obvious ingredients in this performance-punk-opera creation that draws heavily on the sexual atmosphere of the

Bay Area. It ain't pretty, it ain't polished, but it is unpredictable, sleazy, and a lot of noisy fun. (LP/MG)

TRANCE, "The Beaten Track" ($6 from Charnel House Productions, PO Box 170277, San Francisco, CA 94117-0277): A variety of foreboding musical pieces, mainly with chanted or other eerie vocals. Some depend on percussion to build their images, other bring in a more esoteric keyboard sound or power guitars. Will set your whole being on edge as it fills the house with uncertainty. (T/MG)

THE TRILOBITES: "Savage Mood Swing" (PolyGram Records, Inc., New York, NY): Don't go looking for any flower-power 60's-style pop love songs here: This Australian plays guitar pop, heavy on the guitars with mostly on-target lyrics that are eloquent on "New Head" and goofy on "The Girl From Mossad." Singer Mike Dalton screams enough to make any metalhead jealous of his lung power. For those who like their pop with a vicious bite to it. (T/DW)

TRIP 20, "Deep Six" (Action City Records, PO Box 302, Napoleon, OH 43545): Pretty standard, albeit well-executed, Midwest roots-ish rock. The last number, "I Suppose" finally takes off in a welter of fine string-picking, but I would have liked to see this energy infused into the sincere image a bit earlier. Still, one top-notch song is one more than many albums have. (LP/MG)

TRIP SHAKESPEARE, "Across the Universe" (A&M Records, PO Box 118, Hollywood, CA 90078): Full-bodied neo-psychedelic music from Minneapolis. There's no heavy acid guitar riffs here, but the band's general attitude and wide-eyed wonder put them in the same general area. Musically, they go for simple harmonies andpick-me-up tunes, and should make it on the college scene (if anywhere). (LP/MG)

TSOL, "Strange Love" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Hard rock with a touch of metal to it and lyrics which speak directly to teen angst and the pointlessness of living a life dominated by the institutions both aboveground and otherwise. They're not entirely downbeat, but with drugs and shootings by the cops and desperate loneliness they're not contenders for the sweetness and light crown either—but then, the guitar work will clue you in on that long before the words do. (T/MG)

TWENTY MILLION GOOD REASONS, "Shimmer" ($5 ppd from The Dollyhead International, c/o 75 Fitzgerald House, 169 East India Dock Road, London, E14 0HH, ENGLAND): The A side of this tape features this band (and I use the word rather loosely) and their brand of screaming, percussive, headache-inducing music. Sort of industrial but done with teacups instead of chainsaws. The flip is an excerpt from a tape by Pastor Gary, apparently seriously explaining the dangers of rock music and exposing back-masking used by ELO in their records. (T/MG)

ULTRA VIVID SCENE, "Staring At The Sun" (4AD, 611 Broadway #311, New York, NY 10012): 4AD continues to dole out these lovely little EPs to reviewers; by now *my* appetite for a full-length album is certainly whetted. Ultra Vivid Scene is basically Kurt Ralske, who puts together lush and lively pop which flows gently over and around the listener. The music is very seamless and organic, an experience as opposed to a tune, and beautiful sweet. (EP/MG)

□**UNDERGROUNDER #9** ($1 from 13539 Brrokdale Ave., Brook Park, OH 44142): I knew there were freestyle bikers out there, but this is the first zine devoted to them I've seen. The editor tells me there are about 100 others, though, so you'll probably see more in the future. Anyhow, **UNDERGROUNDER** has photos of bikers flying through the air, reports on competitions, and plenty of networking contacts if you're interested in these crazy flying two-wheelers. Printing is a bit poor, due to a limited budget. (D-36)

UNDER NEATH WHAT, "What Is It" (Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Brixton-based rock with some world beat rhythms sneaking in under a crunchy chewy overlay of early Stones sound. For a three piece they've got a heck of a lot of depth, and with songs like "Firebomb Telecom" they're not likely to make many friends in the corporate world. (T/MG)

UN-FILM "13"/WRITHING EUPHORIA "Rubber" (New Flesh, 2837 NW 66th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73116): A split tape of experimental music. Un-Film are sort of gothic hardcore, with bizarre song titles and a definitely foreboding presence. Writhing Euphoria are somewhat more experimental, relying heavily on tape loops and snatches of dialogue taken from various movies, heavily weighted towards porno. (T/MG)

UNIT 731/ROSEN AND MARSHALL, "Death Squad Democracy" ($4 from Scott Marshall, Panic Records and Tapes, PO Box 1696, Skokie, IL 60076-8696): The Unit 731 side drools six pieces of sequences stellar electronics convoluted and confounded by sublime murky substratum. Each sequence seems a ploy to secretly shift the level of the trip albeit in a squiggly line pattern. Hypnotic in the stark sense of the word and rich with rhythmic prose. Less hypnotic, but only slightly so, is the other side, satanamerica, which belches some pretty gripping spasmosis with toothed tape applications and a truthful sense of hauntingly disruptive atonal electronic perversity. Enough to make your respective reproductive apparatus recede in blissful terror. (T/JCM)

UNIT 731/ROSEN AND MARSHALL, "Live in Toronto" ($4 from Scott Marshall, Panic Records and Tapes, PO Box 1696, Skokie, IL 60076-8696): On this one the two humans and their machine comrade conjure fierce, horrific soundscapes in a live performance setting. Subtle rhythmic forays into electronic/tape mania develop into scathing and bombastic crescendos, throughout the performance. Within the maelstrom, this turd head swears he heard an interpretation of Throbbing Gristle's heady classic, "Still Walking". Political rants and a delivery both regimented and free form reveal their aptitude to deliver the goods goodly in a live setting. (T/JCM)

UNSANE, "This Town" b/w "Urge to Kill" (Unsane, c/o Spencer, PO Box 1828, NY, NY 10009) Screaming, noisy, grungey NY rock 45. On "This Town," Unsane play a wall of noise with dark driving riffs, overdriving, muddy guitar feedback, frantic drumming, burning bass lines and vocals between a cry and a scream. Side 2's "Urge to Kill" slows the pace only slightly, but turns up the noise considerably; a warped guitar exits the tune and this excellent single. (45/PMZ)

THE UNTOLD FABLES, "Aesop's Apocalypse" (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): Rough-hewn fuzzy psychedelic rock. A lot of the record seems to be sort of flat and lacking energy, though there are high points. "Watch Your Step Woman" in particular seems to have provoked the band to lay out quite a thicket of pleasing noise. (LP/MG)

URIAH HEEP, "Raging Silence" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): It's been twenty years since Uriah Heep's first album, and they're still turning out hard rock that make plenty of use of the lead guitar, emphasized with strong vocals and keyboards. They sound a bit fed up with society here, singing about rich kids and bad men, but then they close with a cover of the hopeful "Hold Your Head Up", so I guess it;s not all bombast and angst. Loud hard and fun. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Achtung Chicago!" (Underdog Records, PO Box 14182, Chicago, IL 60614: Loud, angry, often sloppy and abrasive music from 14 great Chicago underground bands. Best picks include Gear's anthmic "Basement Rock", Screeching Weasel's manic "Teenage Slumber Party" and the sheer madness of Flea Circus and Apocalypse Hoboken. Includes a lyric booklet and plenty of energy. (LP/MG)

Various Artists, "Beat This: The Brooklyn Beat Compilation CD" (335 Prospect Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215): A celebration and collection of the gutsy new music scene that's grown up around Lauterbach's Bar in Brooklyn. 20 cuts, 20 bands, including strong work from Jing, Al Lee Wyer, Formaldehyde Blues Train, and Beatniks From Mars. The Brooklyn beat sound tends to be sort of blues/rockabilly guitar rock, with plenty of harmonies and easy to listen to. (CD/MG)

Various Artists, "Bull Press Audio Fanzine Compolation Volume One" ($3.50 from Darryl Unger, 249-2 Edwards St., Binghamton, NY 13901) A compolation (sic) of mostly generic hardcore bands, sequenced by short radio and tv bits. I'm unfamiliar with most of these bands, and while there are some amusing tunes, such as Fringe's "Let's Tie Spuds to the Bumper," and odd selections like "Hollywood Bad Jazz," there is too much monotony from bands that seem extremely annoyed and want to tell someone to fuck off. Wearying at 90 minutes, the recording quality is extremely erratic, particularly with the sequenced bits, the criteria of whose inclusion is mostly difficult to discern. (T/PMZ)

Various Artists, "Buttcheese" ($3 from Oyster Publications, 723 N. Highland, Arlington Heights, IL 60004): A comp tape by the folks who put out **BUT A TWIST OF THE LIP** fanzine. The A side is all interviews, including a good one with the Bhopal Stiffs. B has the music, with offerings from the Bhopal Stiffs, Friends of Betty, and the funky Chia Pet, who I hope to hear more from in the future. Some of the quality is marginal, but overall it's a fun package. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Concertina & Squeezebox Bride of Readers' Tape" ($11.50 from PO Box 2343, Bellingham, WA 98227): A selection of music recorded on concertinas and squeezeboxes, to raise money for the zine of the same name. There are traditional melodies and new material, concerts and solos, and even some historical archive recordings. It's a difficult music for the modern ear to adjust to, rough around the edges and unpolished, but it does grow on one after a few listens. It's amazing the variety of noises that can be produced from so simple an instrument. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Everybody's Famous, Vol. 4" (Baby Faze Tapes, PO Box 4264, San Francisco, CA 94101): Alderson Drive kick off with a fun rockin' set of catchy bar tunes, and some hip post-punk is provided by Secret Team—quality vocals and funky fluid bass work set them apart. The rest ranges from forgettable to the irritatingly cheesy UHF, who for some reason get two additional "bonus tracks". A mixed bag presented without a shred of information about the featured acts. (T/KF)

Various Artists, "F.F.F.F.F." ($6.00 from Hypertonia World Enterprises, Jan R. Bruun, PO Box 4307, N-5008, Bergen, Norway, PostGiro: 0806 4329694) Compilation tape of electronic and experimental music from Norway, these 17 selections range from synth work to abstract tape constructions to odd rock songs. Much of the electronic work is of a generic introspectiveness; the tape is balanced by pieces like Memphis 10SC's "BeBop," a deconstruction of jazz tunes, or the frictional guitar work of Jeg Falt's "The Last Fall." Unfortunately there is a sense of carelessness in the production of the cassette and the insert, which takes away from the work of the musicians involved; still there is enough music of merit to take the time listening past these faults. (T/PMZ)

Various Artists, "FOG 3" (Tulpa Productions, PO Box 860, Willimantic, CT 06226): The latest in the Footprints of God comp series, with more noise bands featuring crazy horns—hors seem to be big in Connecticut for some reason. Standout tracks here come from Hellcows and Crystallized Movements, a band I shall be keeping an eye out for in the future, with other tracks from the Larry Mondello Band and Paul Flaherty & Randall Colbourne. (EP/MG)

Various Artists, "Japan Bashing Volume-1" (Public Bath, PO Box 2134, Madison, WI 53701) Among the nosiest, most insane music I've run across, Japan Bashing represents it's name by bashing all semblence of control: screaming, frantic guitar, feedback: it's all here. The four tracks on this 7" are from the Japanese band Boredoms and its offshoots. The Boredoms represent raucous rock at its finest—the B'Hole Surfers come to mind, but this goes beyond. UFO or Die's "Space Disco" is a fast churning and thrashing piece of rock noise; the din continues with the swelling feedback of Omoide-Hatoba's "Linear Motor Jet Shop." Only Hanadensha approachs an organized rock sound with the Big Black-ish "Future Deadlock," but organized is a relative term here. Rock sickness for sickos like me. (7"/PMZ)

Various Artists, "Jesus Junkies Strung Out On Heaven" ($4.00 from Plath, PO Box 295, Schertz, TX 78154) Compilation tape of garage rock and the like, each band delimited with soundtrack dubs from "The Fall of the House of Usher." The best known band is probably Suckdog, which has the most interesting cuts: the short "I Have a Penis Now" is bizarre spoken word over bizarre music; "???" uses marimba and banging as Lisa speaks of her man. The tape starts with the rude rock Nitro Puppy singing about fat, ugly Hank from the ice cream factory, who takes care of his boss. Other cuts from Vomit Launch, Anemic Cinema and Imps of the Perverse are alright if unexciting; Mary Janes Cottonmouth's cut has some of the worst drumming I've heard in a long time. (T/PMZ)

Various Artists, "Keeping Up With the Joneses" ($4 from Bug Scratch Tapes, 49 Muirfield, Abilene, TX 79606): A collection of 36 songs from 18 bands, hardcore, thrash, punk, grunge. The sound quality on many of the cuts is fair-to-poor, but there are some standout exceptions: Izabella Dream, Slatch and Gutter Snipe turn in good performances. Includes contact info for all the bands. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Music To Make Your Ears Hurt" (Black & Blue Records, 400D Putnam Pike #152, Smithfield, RI 02917): The title of this one is a bit puzzling since as offensive as they might be groups like Cedar Street Sluts and Blue Nouveaux are actually quite melodic. However, as pretty much the whole Black & Blue lineup is featured here there is certainly plenty to offend: early acoustic GG Allin, "diaper rock" from Algae Afterbirth, Richard Yorun's "Diarrhea Blues" and the primo cut from Bloody Mess and the Scabs all spring to mind. Definitely not a record for polite company. (LP/MG)

Various Artists, "Noise from Nowhere II" ($4.00/$5.00 CrO2 from New Flesh, 2837 N.W. 66th St., OKC, OK 73116): 90 minute compilation of noise artists, these pieces range from simple monosound experiments to pulsing multilayered presentations. The sound is dark overall, many of the works approaching noise in a somewhat haphazard manner that may leave listeners groping for a foundation amongst noncompositional techniques. Many of the selections are sparse and lethargic, proving to be long distracted meanderings, which is unfortunately how the tape begins. There are some interesting sonic possibilities here, but it's difficult to point out highlights. Bands, with names like 'Tinitus' or 'Kapotte Muziek,' are from across the country, with one each from Germany and Holland. (T/PMZ)

Various Artists "Our Fathers Who Aren't In Heaven" (Widowspeak, PO Box 1085, Canal St. Station, NYC, NY 10013-1085) Spoken word performances from Lunch's Widowspeak label, this double record dedicates one side to each of four artist. First is Don Bajema, playwright and actor, who speaks with a deadpan delivery of dreamlike violence. Author Hubert Selby follows, whose common voiced stories speak of life as we know it (and beyond); the anti-television "Little Respect" is alone worth the price of the record. Rollins' side covers his early experiences with women from a perspective of desire and humble rejection. Lydia Lunch sums up this release by reading four pieces, one from each of the other artists, and one of her own, all over the music and sounds of Jim Thirwell. Tremendous production value and pressing. (2LP/PMZ)

Various Artists, "Polka Comes to Your Haus!" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Yes, polka is making a comeback, filtered through a new generation of performers. Some of the folks here, like Mojo Nixon & Skid Roper, or Das Furlines, play the only polkas in their repertoire, and take a laughing attitude towards them. Others are more committed to the genre, with fine tracks from Polkacide and Mark Shurilla and the Blackholes. 40 minutes of perking bouncing oompah blasting music. (CD/MG)

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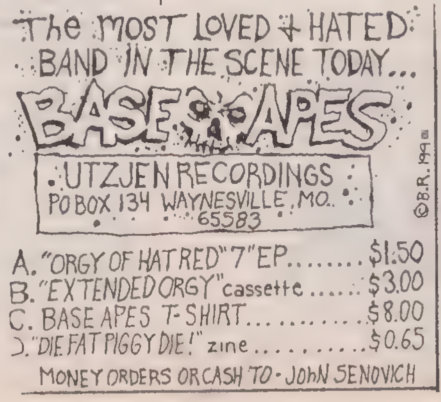
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Various Artists, "Requiem for the Americas" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): A progressive "rock fable" with n all-star cast of characters, from Grace Jones to Simon Le Bon, and with previously unreleased poetry readings by Jim Morrison backing one track. Composer and coordinator Jonathan Elias put the whole things together as a tribute to and benefit for Native Americans, with a wistful yet hopeful slant to the imagery. There is plenty to listen to here, in a melange of modern and primitive styles, and all for a good cause. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Short Stories for Long Nights" (One Little Indian, 250 Yord Road, London SW11 3SJ, ENGLAND): They're billing this as "performance writing", but it's what we used to call "readings": authors reading from their works to (in this case) a television and cassette audience. It's staged as a round table, with pieces from Sara Maitland (with a lovely alternative Christmas story), David Gale (who spins a classic tall tale), Jean Binta Breeze, Kathy Acker (whose own Christmas story is rather odd and mythic) and Michael Bracewell. A nice cozy way to spend part of an evening. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Soundviews: Sources" ($8.00 from What Next?, PO Box 15118, Santa Fe, NM 87506) For those interested in sound as sound, particularly when generated from unusual instruments or unlikely acoustic (for the most part) sources. In all 39 audio artists are represented here, with several of the tracks punctuated by interviews with the recording artists. The recordings range from unstructured aural landscapes to interactive music systems, to various natural phenomena including swinging speaker drones and a Uranus flyby. Nice packaging including a colorful, glossy booklet dedicating a page per artist; excellent recordings. (T/PMZ)

Various Artists, "Spasm Sampler #1" (PO Box 38220, Hollywood, CA 90038-0220): A classy production of one and two person noise/experimental tracks, in a hardshell case with artwork by the artists tucked inside. Contributors include Motiv, Pink Lady (who thank Grux of Caroliner) and Brain Eater. Mostly good and carefully crafted stuff, though as always there are one or two clunkers. (T/MG)

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Joe Colon

Various Artists, "Spontaneous Consumer Frenzy!" ($7.99 *MO ONLY* from POP Records, PO Box 13216, Tampa, FL 33681): A collection of obscure songs that might have been B-sides if the artists involved had put out singles, mostly in a pop frame of mind. Drew Farmer's "The Dinosaur Song" is the most charming there here, while Mike Watt's "The First Cuss" represents the biggest name. Strong efforts come from Young Fresh Fellows ("We're the Best") and ex-Cat Heads ("Anti-Song"). Nice to have a record that doesn't take itself too seriously. (LP/MG)

Various Artists, "Survive Behind Bars" (Eli Talgam, Neve Yaakov 421/15, PO Box 27446, Jerusalem, Israel): Collection of songs and synth/sound experiments from France, Germany and the US. The first side is the more active of the two, containing odd pop/synth songs and a fast-paced percussive piece. Opening with Nostalgie Eternell's "Not Here," a displaced song over an Eno-esque groove, there is much to hold interest on this side. The second side contains more relaxed and somewhat meandering selections, from buzzy synth to wandering noise pieces (Sempiternel's cut is titled 'Fragments 1.') The notable exception is Lord Litter's synth song weirdness, which employs extremely odd orchestraction. Sent in a spray painted cassette with only a j-card insert cut from a swim suit layout.

Various Artists, "Tabloid #5" (£5 from Acs, PO Box 152, Exeter, Devon, EX4 1QH, England): Audio magazine with booklet, the cuts here include 'pop' noise songs, spoken word over sound floor, percussive/melodic pieces and cut-up construction. A well paced cohesive presentation, the noisier active pieces are balanced by more relaxed selections, maintaining interest throughout. Highlights: Big City Orchestra's piece on Ronald Reagan's birthday wound; the bizarre splurching onslaught of Gurglestock's "Pferdeskalp? Oh-Shit/Mm." For a good idea of what's going on in the modern noise world, check this out. (T/PMZ)

Various Artists, "Theodore" ($4.98 list from Columbia Records, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): A combined Columbia/Epic release of "Alternative Music". Sixteen groups in all from (mostly) the college radio market are here, with a mix of live cuts, album previews, and unreleased non-album versions. Especially good tracks come from The Psychedelic Furs, Public Enemy, Toad the Wet Sprocket, Living Colour, and Prong. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Tubes and Wires" (N.T.S. Productions, 742 Paper Mill Rd., Newark, DE 19711): Techno/industrial music with a chrome polish an the ambience of triphammers. Great tracks come from Smersh, City of Worms (including a live track), Illusion of Safety and Batz Without Flesh. This is music to jerk your head around, like a robotic chiropractor with a slight misprogramming. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Variant" (£3.50 from 76 Carlisle St, Glasgow, G21 1EF) From Glasgow comes a "magnetic magazine" that attempts to "document new areas of artistic endeavor in Scotland." Their focus is on "experimental art," which in this case refers to sound experiments and spoken word integrated with sound. There are some fascinating pieces on this well produced tape, some thoughtful juxtapositions of phrase and sound, and a very amusing cut-up of a Pine-Sol commercial. The tape is marred by one piece (it's difficult to distinguish individual selections on this tape) that blatantly plageurizes Einstuerzende Neubauten's "Fiat Lux." Sampling is one thing, theft quite another. (T/PMZ)

Various Artists, "World Domination or Death Vol. 1" (Bad Taste Ltd., 660 Bryant, San Francisco, CA 94107): Bad Taste is a company founded by members of the Sugarcubes, and it looks to me like we might be in for an Icelandic invasion of catchy, feisty, hybrid pop-noise-funk. Reptile and Bless are the bands to watch here, laying down tracks of sheer energy and unlimited inventiveness that begin to develop a new musical idiom of nice noise. For you collectors, there's also a Sugarcubes cut here. (LP/MG)

BEN VAUGHN, "Dressed in Black" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Mostly humorous songs laid on top of retro-rock styles. Vaughn has some insights but seems unable to really develop them in his lyrics. Most of the tunes feature overly repetitive choruses that ultimately go nowhere. Nice band, good sound. "Growin' A Beard" made me laugh. (T/WM)

VERTEBRAE, "At the Beach" b/w "Anesthetized" ($4 from ERL Records, 418 madison Ave., Albany, NY 12210): Grunge-sludge madness with deliberately mucked up vocals. The band has three pieces and maybe even fewer chords, and hacks their way through these two compositions without a lot of regard for musical conventions like melody or beauty. Pretty nasty stuff. (45/MG)

THE WALKABOUTS (Sub Pop, PO Box 20645, Seattle, WA 98101): The Walkabouts are part Fairport Convention's earthy folk, part Go- Betweens pop and part Mudhoney grunge. Some outstanding, very traditional folky compositions by Chris Eckman as well as "Wreck of the Old #9," an Ozark Mountain folk tune. You can't find any better music that combines the folk tradition with 90's sensibilities. (EP/DW)

THE WAMMEE, "Walkin' Sideways" (Rocket Management, 2 Boulton Ave. #9, Toronto, ONT, M4M 2J3, CANADA): Canadian import rock that covers a fair chunk of ground, both live and studio. The best cuts here are the ones where Richard Carstens gets to show off his bluesy guitar style, though the transition from these to more modern thrashers is almost imperceptible, so well it is carried out. Plenty of energy and just the right amount of sloppiness. (T/MG)

WARRIOR SOUL, "Last Decade Dead Century" (Geffen Records, 9130 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069): Performance Art meets punk meets hard rock to produce an album which is both lyrically fascinating and musically hard. Kory Clarke is the driving force here, a personality on the edge of blowing up over the state of the world while still maintaining tenderness for friends. Backed up by a lot of guitars and drums, he leads the band from drugs to global geopolitics and back, singing expressively while the sonic attack continues. (T/MG)

SNAKE WOOLUM, "Lifer's Lament" ($5 from Media Queen, 8825 Roswell Rd. #474, Atlanta, GA 30350): This tape was recorded in prison on a cassette player, so the sound quality isn;t the greatest—but I suppose the marvel is that it exists at all. It starts with Woolum and a few others laying down several tracks of country/rock music, heavy on repentance and religion. Then Snake takes the recorder back to his cell and tapes a few of his conversations with various guards. (T/MG)

X RAY POP, "Musky Muscle" (Pilot, 3 Rue Paul Painlevé, 37000 Tours, FRANCE): Mostly beautiful French-language pop. They have an annoying habit of mixing in high-pitched synth squeals, though, which were too piercing for this pair of ears. But in general their collection of intermixed vocals, light guitars, violins and all-around pleasantness works well. Pretty technoid but not to the point of losing the music in the machinery. (LP/MG)

YOUTH GONE MAD, self-titled (560 W. 43rd #30G, New York, NY 10036): Powerful punk marred by inconsistent vocals, apparently because the group trades off lead duties. "Crime Rate 88" is the winner here, a bad-girl rapper that is a bit reminiscent of the Yeastie Girls but less sarcastic. "Mixed Signals" is sort of ho-hum while the vocals on "Energie" are of the castrated weasel variety. If they can pick a groove and develop it they might go far. (45/MG)

Y&T, "Ten" (Geffen Records, 9130 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069): Striaghtforward rock and roll from a band that has been around for quite a while but hasn't quite struck it big yet. The harmonies and guitar work on "Surrender" is excellent; "City", a more introspective bluesy rock piece, is also a lot of fun. The band can play, and they do, laying down a solid rock line and filling in from there. (T/MG)

BOB Z., "Endless Sluts" (c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): Bob continues to crank out these solo punk guitar efforts and they keep getting better. "Endless Streets", which opens this tape, is a great bluesy number, while the extended remix of "Shopping Mall Fiends of Suburbia" sounds cool too. "Poster Cop", set to the tune of "Mongoloid" is a real chortle, and the closing cover of "Anyday" ends the tape on a rather wistful note. Still lots of rough edges, but in something of the anti-folk mode. (T/MG)

ZZAJ, "In a Conservative World" ($6 from Dick Metcalf, HHC, 19th SUPCOM, PO Box 2879, APO San Francisco, CA 96218): Heavily electronic improvisational music with strange poetic vocal ravings over the top. Dick's voice is processed along with the sound and as a result this is reminiscent of the oracular pronouncements that come out of the edge of sleep, disturbing but not always disconnected. The keyboards bounce rapidly hither and thither, lending the whole a highstrung and anxious sound. (T/MG)

MUSIC NOTES

•You folks asking about places to buy indie records should get in touch with **Ajax Records** (PO Box 146882, Chicago, IL 60614) who distribute a lot of stuff including their own releases. Send an SASE for the most recent Ajax catalog.

•**The Archive of Contemporary Music** is a serious organization that could use your help in preserving their vast collection of records, tapes, and music ephemera—especially since the major labels don't seem to be interested in helping out. For $35 you can become a Friend of the ARChive, at 110 Chamers St., New York, NY 10007.

•**CiTR 101.9 FM** (6138 SUB Blvd. #233, Vancouver, BC V6T 2A5, CANADA) is the radio station behind **DISCORDER** magazine, and they're very interested in "all types of aural expression". They invite **FF** readers to send them material for airplay.

•**The Dead Milkmen** (PO Box 58152, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8152) are up to issue #48 of their fan club newsletter. I think they'll probably send you one for the asking.

•**Elderly Instruments** (PO Box 14210, Lansing, MI 48901) sent along a catalog of their extensive line of acoustic instruments and accessories, with special attention to their fabulous stock of stringed instruments. $2 gets you a copy.

•**Electronic Cottage** (Hal McGee, PO Box 3637, Apollo Beach, FL 33572) has undertaken an ambitious series of electronic and experimental tape comilations. Send an SASE for more information on how to submit you own work.

•**Gateways Institute** (PO Box 1778, Ojai, CA 93024) will sell you not only various subliminal tapes, but even a machine designed to put them on your TV while you're completely zoned out. Slick catalog, probably about $2.

•**Harvard Square Records** (PO Box 1975, Cambridge, MA 02238) is a good source for imports, cutouts, and overstocks, as well as the occasional picturedisc and the full line of ROIR cassettes. Their new catalog is $2.

•**The Hellfire Club** (PO Box 4585, Santa Clara, CA 95054-4585) is a radio show featuring experimental and "difficult" music. They're anxious to hear from artists whose work fits into these categories.

•**Hyde Records** (Timothy Renner, PO Box 831, Reistertown, MD 21136) is putting together a compilation tape of horror, gore and occult related bands. Send tapes to be considered—free copies of the finished product and a review in **PURITY** will be your reward.

•**Index Tape Distribution** (1241 N. Adams St., Tallahassee, FL 32303) is a tape distribution service concentrating on unusual avant-garde music. Try a buck for their catalog.

•**KDVS** is another college station that puts out their own program guide, which you can probably get for a buck or so. Their winter 1990 issue has a good survey of radio censorship through the last few decades. Write to 14 Lower Freeborn, UCD, Davis, CA 95616.

•**Missing Link Music** (6920 Roosevelt Way NE #328, Seattle, WA 98115) is a cooperative distributor for a lot of little tape labels, with over 300 titles in their new catalog, ranging from New Age to Jazz to Rock to Experimental, You can get this nice production by sending them a buck.

•**NEWS FROM JOY BEFORE THE STORM** is the fanzine of, not surprisingly, Joy Before the Storm. You can get a copy by writing to Benedictine Tapes, W179 N8587 Village Ct. #8, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051.

•John Oswald's work of altered music, **PLUNDERPHONIC**, which was suppressed by the Canadian Recording Industry Association, is being made available on cassette by the Tape-Beatles. To get a copy, send a blank C-90 and an 85¢ SASE, or $3 cash, to them at PO Box 8907, Iowa City, IA 52244.

•**The Poly 800 Users Group** (Henry Schneider, 210 Woodcombe, Houston, TX 77062) is looking for material for an upcoming comp tape, any type of music as long as a Poly 800 is used, limit 7 minutes in length.

•**Porkopolis** (PO Box 3529, Cincinnati, OH 45201) is accepting material for its 1990 compilation tapes through August 30. Submit all works on C-60 70eq cassette, include SASE for reply.

•**The Power Plagues** are a band made up of **BAD NEWZ** staffers that intend to tour the country mainly during August. If you can help them set up gigs for music "that's flavored just like **BAD NEWZ** looks" give 'em a call at (718)-636-3845 after 7PM.

•**THE PRESIDENT JOURNAL** is planning a series of compilation tapes and is looking for submissions on hi-bias tape, under 7 1/2 minutes long. For details write them at General Delivery, Tofield, AB, T0B 4J0, CANADA.

•**Project Icon** (10722 West Dr. #101, Fairfax, VA 22030) is looking for spoken word tapes to include in future audio experiments and performances. If they use your submission they'll send back a tape of the final result.

•**Record Roundup** is the catalog of Roundup Records. You can get their latest for $1 from PO Box 154, North Cambridge, MA 02140.

•**The Rediscover Music Catalog** (Aztec Corporation, 6 S. 230 Cohasset Rd., Naperville, IL 60-540-3535) cuts a swathe through folk and popular music from Joan Baez to the Kingston Trio and beyond, helping folks find the music they remember from past decades. Looks like about $2 worth of catalog.

•**Something Else** is a radio program emphasizing indie tape music. Contact Arlent P. Speights, Something Else, KLSU, B-46 Hodges Hall, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.

•**The Uneasy Metronome** (Mark Paolini c/o WCUW-FM, 910 Main St., Worcester, MA 01610) is devoting one show a month to "any and every tape we receive." Send your tape along with a blank, they'll send you a tape of the show plus the addresses of the artists received.

•**Variant** (76 Carlisle St., Glasgow G21 1EF, SCOTLAND) is collecting material for a second tape of experimental and improvisational music, and would be delighted to receive submissions to consider.

•**VOID POST** (PO Box 19427, Minneapolis, MN 55419) is the newsletter of Little City in Space, a bizarre radio show beamed down from a satellite over the Twin Cities. Send a few stamps for a sample copy.

•**WKDI** (544 College Ave., Dekalb, IL 60115) seems to be especially supportive of new music, issuing regular playlists.

As always I'm looking for qualified reviewers for the Lonely Planet travel guides. "Qualified" means you've either been to the area of the guide or are going there and can field test it, that you're going low-budget instead of first-class, and the you can write a 500-word review. Here's the titles currently up for grabs:

THAILAND
SAMOA
TONGA
MALDIVES & ISLANDS OF THE EAST INDIAN OCEAN
INDONESIA
WEST ASIA ON A SHOESTRING

★★★★★

Chas. Balun (ed.), **THE DEEP RED HORROR HANDBOOK** ($17.95 & $4 s&h from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): A fat paperbound guide to the horror and gore movie scene that's about half critical essays and half reviews—the latter rated on both technical quality and amount of gore. Among other selections, there's an appreciation of the work of Dario Argento, a list of "Films That Bite" that are stronger than the average slasher, comparative reviews of cannibal and animal mutilation flicks, a Tobe Hooper profile and some consideration of coming trends. Besides Balun, contributors include Kris Gilpin, John Martin, Todd French and others. Plenty of photos, plus a listing of books and zines for future reference. (320 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Gene H. Bell-Villada, **THE CARLOS CHADWICK MYSTERY: A NOVEL OF COLLEGE LIFE AND POLITICAL TERROR** ($9 from Amador Publishers, PO Box 12335, Albuquerque, NM 87195): Despite the title, this is not particularly a mystery novel. Rather, it is a complex and multi-leveled satire. The basic story takes place pretty much entirely off-page: a young man, Carlos Chadwick, is accused of bombing two college dormitories in 1975, protesting the American bombings of Peru. But the book neither portrays this event not tries to determine whether Chadwick is in fact the culprit. Instead, it presents three different pieces of ideology and leaves the reader to draw conclusions for herself.

The first section is "Who is Carlos Chadwick", by Fred Jennings, a rather shallow American journalist. He gets the basic facts of Chadwick's life out on the table (born of American and Venezuelan parents, college in the States, disillusionment, discovery of Marxism in France). Jennings is also completely baffled by young Chadwick's ideological development and his espousal of ideas which do not fit into American centrism.

The second part of the book is a personal memoir by Livie Kingsley, a thoroughly spoiled young woman who attended college with Chadwick. She too is a budding journalist, and though she pays a lot of lip service to "balance", she too is unable to grasp the simple truth that everything she knows might well be wrong—or even that some ideas are better than others.

Finally, the book closes with Chadwick's own play, "Perspectives Industries, Ltd.", brutally satirical in itself. It portrays a modern American kingdom ruled by the "dogma o the center" and a never-ending source of ideologies which can be used to justify any position so long as it's good for business.

In sum, to get the full impact of this book, you have to be able to read between the lines, and understand that Bell-Villada's portrayal of the centrists' portrayal of Chadwick's ideas is itself a farce, showing not his blind spots but their own. If you think this sounds confusing, you're right. But it's also intriguing and (for those of us already disillusioned with the common American ideologies) even fun. (255 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Mindy Bingham, **BERTA BENZ AND THE MOTORWAGEN** illustrated by Itoko Maeno ($14.95 from Advocacy Press P.O. Box 236 Department T, Santa Barbara, CA 93102): This volume in the set of non-sexist children's books from Advocacy (including **MY WAY SALLY** and **MINOU** reviewed in previous issues) tells the historically accurate story of the first cross country automobile trip—undertaken by Frau Benz and her two sons without the knowledge of her husband. I always feel as though I've been cheated by the history books when I find out about accomplishments like this, as indeed I have. That rather, is the point of these books, to avoid cheating our daughters and sons. That aim is accomplished, as ever by Bingham and Maeno, delightfully, without any attempt to harangue or preach, and accompanied by Maeno's wonderful (and technically accurate) watercolors. The consciousness-raising last page is filled with statistics (such as the fact that 70% of all high school girls are enrolled in programs to lead to tradionally female jobs) that as a woman physicist I am only too aware. Lets hope that with books like this we do a better job on the next generation. (48 pp. hc) (Reviewed by Carolyn MacDonald)

★★★★★

Alyce P. Cornyn-Selby, **SELF-SABOTAGE: SOLVE IT!** ($$6.95 & $1.50 s&h from Beynch Press, 1928 SE Ladd Ave., Portland, OR 97214): This is essentially a condensed version of Alyce's **PROCRASTINATOR'S SUCCESS KIT** (reviewed in FF35). Alyce explains the basics of her "Inner Theater" model, a way for you to get in touch with the parts of your personality that sabotage your efforts. She discusses some of the most common voices in our heads—the Finance Director, the Internal Mom, and so on—and includes hints on how to negotiate with them. There's a special section on losing weight that serves as both example and testimonial. It's all spiral bound and a very fast read;, should be under half an hour for most anyone to breeze through, though applying these ideas will of course take longer. (67pp. mini)

★★★★★

Frank Cotolo, **PONY PLAYER** ($10.95 from F.M. Cotolo, 8125 Jonestown Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17112): What with the pressures of putting out this magazine, I don't get too many chances to read mass market popular fiction these days, And when I do, I'm often not impressed. One reason for that is books like this. Working strictly within the small press tradition (**PONY PLAYER** is published by Slough Press, a small outfit out of Austin), he has produced a book every bit as good as anything you can buy at the local mall.

The main character here is Michael Spinosa, a Brooklynite transplanted to Hollywood. Though he came to write, he stays to play the ponies, making his living betting on the races at Hollywood Park. (The detail and color here ring very true, which is hardly surprising since Cotolo earned his own living doing exactly that). In some of the interlocked vignettes here the track is the background for love or friendship; in others, the race itself is the thing, a sport to be appreciated for its own sake.

And appreciated it is. I haven't been to the track in perhaps fifteen years, and never enjoyed it all that much when I was there. But Cotolo's flowing style, sense of pace and story, makes me wish I could drive over there tonight. This book is that good: it makes you want to enter its world in preference to your own. (200pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Garry De Young, **ENVIRONMENTAL GARDENING: GARDENING IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAWS OF NATURE** (De Young Press, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252): A mixture of history, basic ideas about plants, the environment and growth, and Garry's own fifty-year experience as a gardener. This is not a farming manual, carefully organized by topic or by plant. Rather, it's more akin to a farmer's almanac, jumping from the proper principles of raspberry pruning to which "idiot crops" are easiest to grow to the work of Luther Burbank. Sound advice presented for people who want something other than a recipe to follow. (82 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Jane DeYoung, **THE TROUBLE WITH TEMIK** (De Young Press, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252): A look at the history of farming on Long Island, the introduction of the pesticide Temik (aldicarb) to control a particular infestation, and the resulting groundwater contamination. If anyone needs any more evidence that the chemical companies are more concerned about profits than the health of people, this book provides further evidence. Includes a bibliography and some maps. (D-48t)

★★★★★

Ray Garton, **TRADE SECRETS** ($25 from Mark Ziesing, PO Box 76, Shingletown, CA 96088): Reading this book was an unusual experience for me. By now kicking around the underground has left me pretty well inured to violence and gore and the nasty ideas that squirm around like snakes inside the brain. But Garton has managed to go above and beyond the usual level of nastiness that one finds in the gore world, and I found myself pausing quite frequently to stare out the window, take a few deep breaths, and remind myself that this was only a novel. (Or, as the subtitle puts it, "A Modern Melodrama"). But despite that, I never once considered tossing the book aside, because it's damned good.

The setup here is reminiscent of Ludlum: a mysterious woman, a man with unexpected reserves of strength, and a sinister, secretive, far-ranging organization chasing them. But Garton doesn't pussy-foot around with this. When the organization runs up against someone, that someone is dead, immediately, sadistically, messily. On the other hand, TRADE SECRETS is no cheap gore thriller either. All the killings make sense, and each serves to both heighten the suspense and further explain what's going on. Garton doesn't pull his punches, but he doesn't punch just to watch the blood flow either. I'm not sure I can call this an enjoyable novel. But it's a damned good one. If you're into being scared by the inhumanity of people, looking for a good adventure story, and don't mind a few women and children being slaughtered, then check out this work. (292 pp. hc)

★★★★★

GORE SHRIEK DELECTUS ($12 + $4 s&h from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): A collection of the strongest and nastiest comic work from Fantaco's **GORE SHRIEK** series of books. Blood flows in buckets, little girls are pursued by hulking zombies, people get eaten and buried and burned. Presented in a trade paper format with colorful and intriguing covers, but if you leave this around on your coffee table be prepared for strange stares from your visitors. The stuff that nightmares are made of. (80 pp tpb)

★★★★★

Martin Greenburg and Isaac Asimov, **COSMIC CRITIQUES. HOW AND WHY TEN SCIENCE FICTION STORIES WORK** ($12.95 + $3.00 S&H from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45207. Visa & Mastercard orders: 1-800-289-0963): This is another in Writer's Digest "special interest writing" series, which are advertised under the headline of "Sell More of What You Write .... with Writer's Digest Books." It is a nice anthology of stories, including some real classics from the 60's (e.g., Larry Niven's "Neutron Star" and Arthur C. Clarke's "Dial F for Frankenstein."). However, it really isn't much more than that, and if you aspire to write science fiction, you will likely come away dry from this wellspring. That is, unless you developed that aspiration only yesterday, and have never read any science fiction before in your life. In that case, this is just the book for you. Asimov wrote a nice little intro to the book and a set of littler intros for each story, and Greenburg probably did all the editorial scutwork to assemble the package. However, the "how and why" commentaries at the end of each story were written by someone named Ansen Dibell, whose other works consist of a Writer's Digest "how-to" entitled **PLOT** and half-interest in another on word processing. He seems to have no tickets in the science fiction field whatsoever. Each commentary consists of telling the reader a shorter version of what he just read, interlaced with some sort of exposition about the key plot elements. The commentaries are all quite valid, but most English Lit sophomores could probably do as well, and inspire you just about as much.

Asimov's key advice to budding young scribes (here and elsewhere) is "read the good writers." In that respect, this is a good book. (Although I'm sure I could get a lot of other good anthologies a lot cheaper.) However, if you really feel you need a do-it-yourself manual, you would be better served if you could dig up a copy of **ON WRITING SCIENCE FICTION** (Owlswick Press, 1981), which George Scithers, Darrell Schweitzer, and John Ford wrote back in the days when they were editting IASFM.

HANUMAN BOOKS

Yup, more little books from Hanuman. These are only about 3" by 4", hand-made in India via letterpress and sewn bindings, and very classy. Available only as sets of six books for $25, so if you're interested, send a buck for their catalog. They're at PO Box 1070, Old Chelsea Sta., New York, NY 10113.

Willem de Kooning, **COLLECTED WRITINGS**: I quite liked this one, which surprised me, because de Kooning is an artist writing about art, a subject about which I know very little. But this is art criticism without the mystification, simple ideas about line and shape and people and things and light that even I can grasp. De Kooning writes about a number of big names, from Duchamp to Rothko, and centers in New York during the middle decades of this century. A quote that tickled my fancy: "If the bookkeepers think it necessary continuously to make sure of where things and people come from, well then, I come from 36 Union Square." (196 pp.)

Bob Flanagan, **FUCK JOURNAL**: This one was out of print for a while, since the printer thought it immoral, but I guess they settled it. It's sort of minimalist erotica/porn, a day by day description of a drug- and bondage-laden sex life, extremely explicit. However, the explicitness is reduced to a description of the act itself, without context except for the rest of the journal of Flanagan's year in the sack (and other places). (98pp.)

Gary Indiana, **WHITE TRASH BOULEVARD**:This one is pretty in-jokey. It's made up of three short stories satirizing (not very gently) the mannerisms and mores of the New York art scene and the bitchy people inhabiting it. Indiana has a weird style that doesn't quite click for me, but I can see that it would excite some critics. (124 pp.)

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John Hayward, **TEACHING SOCCER** (6216 Ellenview Ave., West Hills, CA 91307): Luckily the rules and techniques of soccer don't go out of date, because this book was published in 1976, only a dozen years after the establishment of the American Youth Soccer Association. This book is one attempt to teach the U.S. how to play the most popular ball game in the world, and it does so by teaching how to teach soccer. The chapters are short and informative, easy to review even during an actual practice session; they cover topics like how to handle your first practice session, dribbling, and goalkeeping. Of special interest to me was the chapter on offsides. After playing soccer my entire life without understanding the concept, I finally know *precisely* what offsides is. (112 pp. tpb)(Guest review by Geof Huth)

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John Hayward, **WODDEE SIGH, TOSH?** ($2.95 from 6216 Ellenview Ave., West Hills, CA 91307): This book is a basic introduction to Cockney slang, rhyming and otherwise, by an expatriate English comedian in Southern California. Step by step he explains the complexities of the Cockney's lingo, discussing everything from terms for clothing to rude slang for parts of the body. If you pay close attention, by the middle of the book you'll be able to translate such wonderful confusions as "All right, but tell your cherry hog to take a penn'orth, I pen 'e's a bit niffy." After the explanations, Hayward tells a short sotry about a WWII prison camp escape in which Cockney rhyming slang was extended and used as a secret code to baffle the Germans. I found this latter only moderately interesting, and a glossary or index would have helped as well, but overall this seems to be a good basic reference. (141 pp tpb)

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Sheila Holligon, **HOUSE OF GINGERBREAD** ($9.50 from Dunscaith Publishing Ltd., 28 West Lodge Avenue, London W3 9SF, UK): A strong first novel from a writer who has definitely found her own voice. Holligon writes in sharp flashes of prose, each scene only a paragraph or two long, conveying story with rapid-fire imagery. The protagonist is Anna, a woman who doesn't even realize the mundane horror of her life on the moors with an abusive husband and no life of her own—not, that is, until Davey drops into her life, seducing her body and mind. A spark reawakens within Anna and she begins writing again, a pastime long-abandoned to raise children. This fuels the struggle within here, though, and the chief action of the plot is the agonizing decision she must make between her husband Ben and her lover Davey. (213 pp. tpb)

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Sam Kash Kachigan, **THE GAME** ($7.95 from Radius Press, 217 E. 85th St., New York, NY 10028): The cover labels this as "Transfiction"; the jacket copy suggests "operational writing" as a category. Whatever one wishes to call it, THE GAMES is certainly unique, though not necessarily enjoyable. It is in outline a very detailed explanation of a single hand of draw poker, explained at great length as for the mythical man from Mars. For example, the hands are not simply enumerated but ordered, so that it is seen what aesthetic principles govern the outranking of a pair by a flush. The actions of shuffling, of dealing, of betting are minutely described. It all ends rather suprisingly (I won't give it away here), but remains a puzzle. A book which seems to say a great deal more than it actually does, for all fo the fine packaging of this elegant edition. (88 pp hc)

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Geary Kaczorowski, **SWAN DIVE AND OTHER STORIES** ($5.95 from Primal Publishing, 107 Brighton Ave., Allston, MA 02134): A collection of bizarre short stories for a bizarre modern age. The book starts out strongly with the title story, a tale of drunken revelry that ultimately becomes too much for the protagonist, though his partner in boozing doesn't seem to understand. Other pieces of note include the stories featuring roommates R.L. and Scooter, up to and beyond R.L.'s death (the afterlife proves to be stranger than you could imagine, and more mundane as well) and the closing play, "Bowling for Taoists: A Play of Anarchy". Kaczorowski's characters seem to be suffering from an overdose of something, but it may just be an overdose of frenetic modern life. Hang on; this is going to be a weird decade. (127 pp. tpb)

* * * * *

Walter Kafton-Minkel, **SUBTERRANEAN WORLDS: 100,000 YEARS OF DRAGONS, DWARFS, THE DEAD, LOST RACES & UFOS FROM INSIDE THE EARTH** ($18.95 & $3 s&h from Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): This is both the best survey of the hollow Earth literature and the best value of any book published by Loompanics that I've yet seen. Kafton-Minkel is sympathetic but not gullible, and he tells the story of inner world believers starting with ancient myths and proceeding up to modern times. Symmes, Shaver, Doreal and Bernard are treated at length, along with a host of lesser luminaries. The beliefs of each particular writer or sect are patiently examined, some of the basic objections to their truth are outlines, and the historical links between them explicated. There's also a chapter on literary treatments of the subject and a fine bibliography. A fun book to browse through at leisure. (306 pp. tpb)

* * * * *

Richard Kostelanetz (ed.), **ASSEMBLING ASSEMBLING** (PO Box 444, Prince St. Sta., New York, NY 10012): Though published over a decade ago (1978), this just now fell into my hands, and it deserves a mention; contact Richard at the address above if you're interested in acquiring a copy. **ASSEMBLING** was an important link in the history of the experimental small press, a magazine composed of sheets printed by its writers, with no editorial control except in deciding who to invite. To those aware of the century-long history of the amateur press association, or familiar with similar but more recent projects (**ESTUDIO**, **LEVEL**, and **LAUGHING WHALE** come to mind), this doesn't seem so strange. But in the New York literary establishment of the early 70's, it was revolutionary. Kostelanetz presents his own introductions to various issues of the magazine, grant proposals, reviews and (of course) a section of comments on **ASSEMBLING** written by contributors to **ASSEMBLING**. Definitely worth a look if you're as fascinated as I am by the history of the small press. (96 pp. tpb)

* * * * *

Jane Evans Latimer, **THE HEALING POWER OF INNER LIGHT-FIRE** ($11.95 from LivingQuest, PO Box 3306E, Boulder, CO 80307): There exists a body of knowledge about how to become happier and more fulfilled with one's own life which has been manifested in many guises over the centuries. Looking back, I can see it in Gudjieff and his exercises in self-remembering. My own conceptualization depends on the form in which I was first exposed to it, John Lilly's **PROGRAMMING AND METAPROGRAMMING IN THE HUMAN BIOCOMPUTER**, together with the **ILLUMINATUS!** trilogy. Latimer presents this material in a New Age way, drawing on the teachings of the little known School of Actualism.

The book starts by presenting a set of five keys to accessing higher power: Pain, Attachment, Consciousness, Enlightened Action, and Will. From this, Latimer develops the notion of the Observer (Lilly's metaprogramming) who can look dispassionately at the self, its identities, and its problems, engage them in dialogue, and give up power to a higher level of consciousness (known as the True Will in some other systems). Though I don't find New Age terminology, with its borrowings from the hard sciences, to be particularly congenial, I can appreciate the presentation here. Latimer goes beyond talking about inner light-fire to working with it, in a series of fairly detailed guided meditations and visualizations.

One nice touch is that this book does not downplay the difficulty of working with these energies to bring about personal change. Latimer faces the difficulties squarely, drawing on her own life to show that there is hard work involved in changing. She also provides a list of resourcesand further readings for those who need help in the process. If you feel trapped, worthless, or otherwise are upset about life, and the New Age terminology speaks to you, check this book out. (160 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Herschell Gordon Lewis, **BLOOD FEAST** ($9.95 from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): This is the novelization of the classic gore film of the same name. Though it's somewhat of a cult title, I don't find the translation to the printed page to be very successful. Bits of non sequiteria that seem bewildering and intriguing on the screen lie pretty flat on the printed page. As far as plot goes, the gaggle of bumbling cops chasing the mass murderer will not keep you awake at nights. Includes a few pages of color shots from the movie. (160 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Harold S. Long, **SUCCESSFUL ARMED ROBBERY** ($8 plus $3 s&h from Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): Long is in prison, so he might be a good source on crime. Unfortunately this slim book was rather a disappointment. Basically the problem is that Long is long on theory and short on process. The strongest parts of the book are generalities—types of criminals, factors to consider when planning a robbery, what causes failure. But the section on actually robbing someone is disappointing, being in the main a dry run through one imaginary situation. There's almost no general principles to be learned from this, and no concrete discussion of (for example) choosing a firearm, the legal consequences of various actions, or police procedures you'll be fighting against. And one of his suggestions—ditching the surgical gloves in a nearby parking lot—is actually pretty foolish, since these days (at least according to **WITHOUT A TRACE**) they can pick up your fingerprints from the inside of the gloves. Better to take them home and burn them. (50 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

LOOMPANICS' GREATEST HITS ($16.95 & $3 shipping from Loompanics, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): For the past decade, Loompanics has been publishing short essays from neophiles, libertarians, conspirators and other unlikely authors in their book catalogs. Now, to celebrate 15 years of selling unusual books, they've collected all these essays (plus two new ones by Greg Krupey) into one handy book, a guide to the freedom underground and its many curious tendrils.

Not surprisingly there's a lot of politics here, mainly Libertarian—but it's pretty far from mainstream Partyarchy. Bob Black, for example, discusses the "Libertarian as Conservative", while Martin Buchanan tries to exhaustively enumerate potential strategies for liberty. There are a couple of reprinted vonuist essays by El Rayo, while Jon Fisher offers a tale of running a small business free of government interference. For those who wish to pursue this line of thought, there are several other essays on the black market, the underground economy, and related subjects.

Of course everyone will have their favorite essays among this mixed bag of iconoclasts and free thinkers. Mine include Bob Shea's "The Empire of the Rising Scum", in which he explores the evolution of organizations as the *apparatchiks* take them over; the perennially useful "What to do when the FBI Comes" from the National Lawyers Guild; Bradley Steiner's perfectly-serious "How to Use the Loompanics Catalog As A Weapon!"; Bob Black's identification and dissection of the marginals in "Beneath the Underground"; and the sobering "Beware the Secret Sex Police!" by Richard E. Geis.

On the down side, some of these essays are horribly dated, especially the ones predicting imminent changes in business as usual. For example, Carol Moore predicted the Nation State Break-Up" in 1986 while Kurt Saxon, interviewed in 1980, spoke blithely of social collapse by 1981 or so. And the vonuists haven't been heard from lately either—did they succeed in dropping out of sight, or change their names and join the rat race?

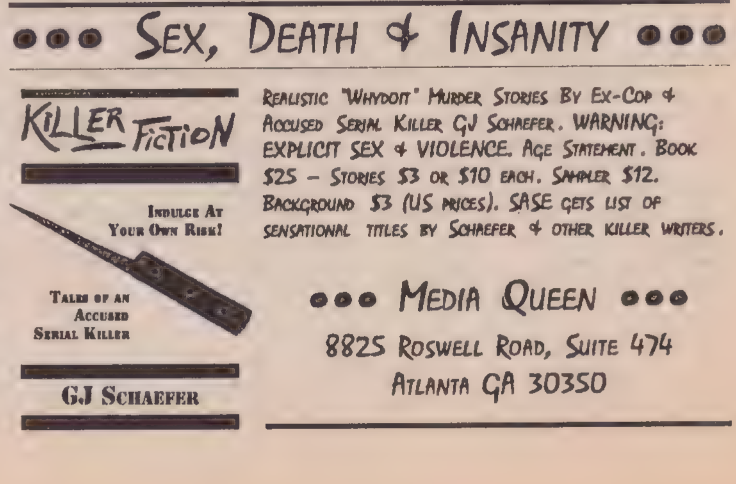
In any case, there's many happy hours of reading here. The Loompanics catalog promotes a certain mindset, which is concentrated here: the people can damned well take care of themselves, that a better world is coming if we work at it, and that ultimately Big Brother is going to turn out to be Charlie Chaplin with a fake moustache. Turn on, tune in, and break out of the mainstream with this collection. (300 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Dick and Mary Lutz, **THE RUNNING INDIANS: THE TARAHUMARA OF MEXICO** ($12 from Dimi Press, 3820 Oak Hollow Ln. SE, Salem, OR 97302): There's a decidedly New Age flavor to this documentary piece, but despite that, this well-produced little trade paperback manages to cut through the bullshit and entertain whilst informing. It's about the Tarahumara, a legendary semi-nomadic hunter-gatherer tribe that bops around the craggy hills and hollows of the Mexican Sierra Madres. The Tarahumara are interesting if only because of their lifestyle (being one of the world's only remaining indigenous populations making a go of it pleistocene-wise) but are best known, especially among those prone to primitivist romanticization, as "the running Indians", a tribe of extraordinary athletes. These Indians, according to the Lutzes, "smoke cigarettes, get drunk, and eat little, but can run for days and nights at a time". There is no doubt about this (other researchers have documented Indians covering distances up to seventy-five miles with minimal breaks) but there's some doubt about this book. Written in a very gringo-ish, touristy style, it reads like a travel guide ("Come see the wondrous Tarahumara, in scenic old Meh-Heeco") and only occasionally digresses to discuss the "scientific" data collected about these guys. But as an introduction to an interesting group, it works...(maybe someone should hijack the idea for a paper for their Physical Anthropology course—the Lutzes do have a relatively complete bibliography here) *if* you can get past the mystification of the tribe's abilities and beliefs. Slickly produced, nice looking, big type...another of those "all right if you like that sort of thing" things. (100 pp. tpb)(Guest review by Tad Kepley)

★★★★★

Richard L. Lutz, **FELL BETTER! LIVE LONGER! RELAX** ($9.95 & $2 shipping from Dimi Press, 3820 Oak Hollow Ln. SE, Salem,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●●● MEDIA QUEEN ●●●
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OR 97302): A rather short overview of relaxation as a way of living a better life and techniques for achieving it. After discussing the importance of relaxation and some medical theories about it, Lutz goes into the heart of his book, and exploration of different techniques and problems that they can help with. Many of the pages are devoted to reprinting the scripts from relaxation tapes that he also sells—which seems strangely commercial, but is actually the sort of thing that can save the reader money, since it makes it possible to record your own relaxation tapes. Visualization, weight loss, meditation, and curing cancer are some of the topics touched on here. (141 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Adam McLean, **THE TRIPLE GODDESS: AN EXPLORATION OF THE ARCHETYPAL FEMININE** ($10.95 from Phanes Press, PO Box 6114, Grand Rapids, MI 49516): McLean dissects the idea of the Triple Goddess at length here, going far beyond the maiden/mother/crone aspects that are most remarked on in modern paganism. His anchor is in Greek mythology, where he finds set upon set of goddesses, sometimes further tripled, as in the nine muses. A survey of these sets of deities, from the Erinyes to the Horae, reveals many facets of the mythological feminine, a catalog of energies and ideas. McLean then goes on to consider certain myths, such as that of Hera or the Judgment of Paris, at greater length. The book wraps up with a brief survey of triune goddesses from non-Greek traditions, and some thoughts on archetypes in general and working with goddess archetypes in particular. Overall, it's a well-written and almost self-effacing survey, a presentation of material suitable for either meditation or more active exploration. (122 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Michael Newton, **HUNTING HUMANS: AN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MODERN SERIAL KILLERS** ($34.95 plus $3 s&h from Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): This is (as far as I can recall) the first hardcover to be published by Loompanics—and it is the sort of reference work that probably warrants that sort of treatment, revolting though the subject may be. Newton, a veteran crime writer, works from newspapers, books, and law enforcement contacts to produce a listing of "544 cases of serial murders, involving roughly 750 individual killers and an estimated 5,336 to 6,368 victims." Arranged alphabetically by the killer (or, in unsolved cases, under descriptive headings such as "Highway Murders—Germany"), Newton present short, facts-oriented summaries of each spree, with names, dates, and details but generally devoid of crime-tabloid sensationalism. All the expected big names are here (Speck, Manson, Bundy, Corona, Gacy...) as well as anyone else who did his deeds in the 20th century. A scary and depressing book, to say the least. (353 pp. hc)

★★★★★

OVERTIME: THE MILL HUNK HERALD TEN YEAR ANTHOLOGY ($12 from Overtime, 319 Clearview Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15205): For those not in the know, **THE MILL HUNK HERALD** was a well-done disgruntled workers' mag that met with some success out in the "smokestack jungle" of the rust belt. Always pissed, but sometimes sappy, **MILL HUNK** managed to irritate bosses, left and right (the unions weren't happy with the paper any more than the steel barons) and put some spark into regional grassroots "worker politics". Now that steel has pretty much gone (to Malaysia and South America) so has the magazine, hence the release of this posthumous ten-year anthology of some of the best stuff.

The paper fluctuated back and forth between get-off-your-ass-you're-being-fucked news and opinion pieces and poetry and fiction of an admittedly amateurish but reasonably potent bent, all the while managing somehow to keep from degenerating into any of the predictable forms of workerist jingoism. In staying well away from smug syndicalist proselytizing, the Mill Hunkers proved that they were *workers* in that they were able to communicate ideas without alienating (unlike most of our current crop of self-righteous anarcho-syndicalist losers) their target readership with cornball appeals and self-righteous moralization.

Standouts here include accounts of worker conflict with Uncle Tom Union management (13797 Rank and File), smart-ass blasting of corporate mismanagement and, in the "Telling the Past" section, some poignantly rendered glimpses into times gone by. This time has gone by, and for those interested in "workers' struggles" in the past decade, **OVERTIME** is an invaluable source. Throw away your collection of back issues of **RESURGENCE** and get yourself a dose of workers' fire with at least a little common sense. (208 pp. tpb) (Guest review by Tad Kepley)

★★★★★

Derek Pell, **ASSASSINATION RHAPSODY** ($6 from Autonomedia, PO Box 568, Brooklyn, NY 11211-0568): Part of the Semiotext(e) "Foreign Agents" series, this one starts with the Warren Commission report on the shooting of President Kennedy. Pell puts sections of this report through various transformations, replacing words by their dictionary definitions, muddling appendices (so that "Oswald's Underworld Ties" becomes a picture of neckwear, for example) and generally imparting a dream-like feel to the famous "lone assassin" theory. The result is an eerie stew of ideas, theories, facts and fantasies, with roughly the same overall effect as reading the revisionist literature on the assassination: by the end of the book it is nearly impossible to know what is truth, what is falsehood, what is theory, and what is coverup. An interesting exercise on the margins of literature and history. (121 pp. pb)

★★★★★

Rene Ricard, **GOD WITH REVOLVER** ($12 from Hanuman Books, PO Box 1070, Old Chelsea Sta., New York, NY 10113): A full-sized book from Hanuman, purveyors of shirtpocket-sized fine literature. Like their smaller books, this one was physically produced in India and has a very solid feel to it. Ricard writes a mix of introspective and homosexual love poems, pouring out a good deal of his life on the page to leave a legacy behind in case of accident, suicide, or broken heart; emotions run at a high pitch here. Ricard seems to take everything personally and dramaticlly; as one poem says "I've arranged my life to secure the greatest/ unhappiness for myself." The victim mentality also comes through in many of the love poems, as in this short untitled offering: "He'll never have a/ love as constant as mine./ I'm sure I'll have/ no trouble ginding another faithless lover" Despite it all there's a quiet strength here, the strength of someone who keeps trying, thinking, feeling despite years of poor experiences. (101 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Lewis Sanders, **WHAT A LONG STRANGE TRIP IT'S BEEN** ($11 from Straight From the Hip Press, PO Box 8005, Suite #316, Boulder, CO 80306): Subtitled "A Hippy's History of the Sixties and Beyond", this one covers the years from Camelot through Bush & Quayle, looking mostly at the politics but also at the culture of our times, and at the rise and fall of the hippie dream. Sanders works everythign into these pages, all the names and faces: **ROLLING STONE**, the Kennedys and King, Watergate and Irangate, Owsley's acid and Tim Leary, the Vietnam war, psychedelic posters, Kent State, the American Indian Movement, and much, much more. A thread of conspiracy theory, in the tradition of the Christic Institute, runs through the book, and I personally would take some of his assertions with a grain of salt (although there are footnotes and references provided for a number of things that look nuts). In any case, this is a fine survey of the modern American mythos, which captures well the spread and sweep of our recent history. Nostalgic for anyone who grew up in these times to boot. (199 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Brent Sands, **REBORN IN CANADA** ($8 plus $3 s&h from Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): This is a very specialized book. It's directed at the U.S. paper tripper who's decided that Canada is the place to build a new identity. Sands does an excellent job of explaining the differences between the Canadian identity system and the one in the States, and then goes on to suggest ways to sneak into it. He doesn't repeat information from other sources, but provides an extensive bibliography so that you can find it. For informational purposes only, of course. (D-50t)

★★★★★

G.J. Schaefer, **KILLER FICTION** ($25 from Media Queen, 8825 Roswell Rd. #474, Atlanta, GA 30350): This is easily one of the most revolting works I have ever been sent for review—and the author would, judging by his introduction, be pleased to hear that. Schaefer is on Death Row in Florida for serial killings. Part of the evidence at his trial was a number of stories and pictures about grisly sexually-described hangings. Those are in here, along with the drawings the cops also seized. There's also a lot more, written to hone his skills (Schaefer, of course, insists that it's all just stories).

There are murders galore of young women by ghoulish killers. There are Death Row stories, including an extended and graphic description of the events leading up to the electrocution of a woman. And overall, there is such an amount of insanity and perversion here that it's very difficult to get through the book. This is the real thing, even the fictional parts—from various published sources (and probably his fellow inmates) Schaefer has developed a heavy hand with the gory details of death and decomposition. For the strong of stomach *only*. Various of the individual stories are also available as chapbooks for $3 if you want a sample; try **SPRING BREAK** or **PAYDIRT**. (168 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Sperry, **EXTRA STRENGTH** ($7 from PO Box 11462, Berkeley, CA 94701): About twenty months worth of intensely personal writings from Sperry, mostly from New York and San Francisco, plus planes between and occasional spoken word gigs in other places. He's sort of an antenna for the psychic condition of the big cities, and the stuff that ends up on the pages here is dark indeed. Fires, junkies, cop shootings and above all loneliness mark his work, each page a series of vignettes of the arrogant, the despairing, or the just plain hopeless folks one meets on the street. As the title implies, this is pretty powerful writing, from someone who deserves to be known more widely than he is already. Compelling and chilling work in the tradition of Nietzsche's "philosophy with a hammer". (243 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Bob Staake (ed.), **1990 HUMOR AND CARTOON MARKETS** ($15.95 plus $3 s&h from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207): The latest addition to the line of books that started with **WRITER'S MARKET**. This one is directed at the funny people, whether they be cartoonists, gagwriters, or hopeful authors of humorous novels. Staake covers markets in all fields: advertising, animation, art and design studios, book publishers, comics, gags and entertainers, greeting cards, magazines, newspapers, television and radio and syndicates. There are listings of contests and agents as well. Of course, every listing has all the essentials from contact information through needs and payment. A very few of the things in the magazines section have been in **FF**, but since this is focused on paying markets, the vast majority are not things I list. Looks useful. (288 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Gregory Stephenson, **EXILED ANGEL: A STUDY OF THE WORK OF GREGORY CORSO** ($12.95 from Water Row Press, PO Box 438, Sudbury, MA 01776): This is the first full study of the works of Corso, an important poet in the Beat Generation. Stephenson takes a very structured approach to his subject, considering Corso's poetic books in the order that they were published and dissecting each one practically poem by poem. Sections on his prose work and plays round out the book. While I am not overly familiar with Corso's work myself, Stephenson writes with a quiet authority and his interpretations seem to make good sense. (103 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Margaret Elizabeth Stucki, **WAR ON LIGHT: THE DESTRUCTION OF THE IMAGE OF GOD IN MAN THROUGH MODERN ART** ($16.50 from Ichthys Books, PO Box 1701, Glenwood Springs, CO): This is a reprint of the author's 1975 doctoral thesis (PhD in Christian Education from Freedom University). I will admit that it was a challenge to review—her assumptions about the way the world works are so different from mine that even getting far enough into the book to understand the source and connections of her beliefs was difficult. However, there is a concise summary at the tail end of the dissertation:

"The loss of light on the canvases of the art of the twentieth century symbolizes the departure from Christ, of men walking without God, hand in hand with Satan. Christ is the only whole and sure armour of God. The light, which is at the same time love, which is Jesus Christ, has departed from most contemporary painting. Christ has departed physically from being pictured on the canvasses of the twentieth century and the Holy Spirit of love has also departed from these pictures which minister to every vain deceit of the Devil—lust, vanity, pride, emptiness—all sins which have led to the death of the fine art of painting in this century."

This is backed up not just with Biblical citations (as the skeptical and dismissive might suspect) but with a wide range of other sources—as well as 16 sketchbook-style charts showing the common features of modern art which distress the author. Although I do not agree with her interpretation (or with the idea that art necessarily has a purpose, for that matter), the trends that she cites are real, and this is one interesting framework to grapple with them in. (O-42t)

★★★★★

Neil Tilbury, **ISRAEL: A TRAVEL SURVIVAL KIT** ($13.95 from Lonely Planet Publications, Embarcadero West, 112 Linden St., Oakland, CA 94607): This entry in Lonely Planet's travel guide series proved very useful during a recent two-week stay in Tel Aviv, with brief trips to Haifa and Jerusalem. I found it to be generally accurate, with much useful background information on political and social issues. Israel/Palestine's complex ethnic and religious makeup is succinctly and accurately explained. It was also useful in finding cheap, tasty, local food. Numerous cheap places to stay are listed. The street maps were accurate (and essential). (More detailed street maps—which you'll probably want—are available free from government tourist offices, or at a reasonable price from bookshops.) The guide's coverage of local places of interest was sufficient for me. If

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you want more detail on historical/religious sites, you'll find excellent English-language guidebooks available in Israel.

I recommend this as the guide you carry with you. Review the other standard guides—FROMMER'S, LET'S GO, etc.—at the library before you leave. (The INSIGHT guide has great color photographs and useful background essays, but only a brief section of practical information. INSIGHT guides are also bulky and tend to fall apart.) (435 pp. tpb)(Guest review by Walt Noiseux)

★★★★★

Uncle Fester, **HOME WORKSHOP EXPLOSIVES** ($7.95 & $3 s&h from Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): In my checkered career I have had occasion to run across both professional chemistry texts on explosives and their underground brethren (THE ANARCHIST COOKBOOK regrettably springs to mind). These present equal and opposite difficulty for the person who just wants to make a few bombs at home: the former are too technical and oriented towards theory and industrial chemistry, while the latter are damnably dangerous and oriented towards blowing the experimenter's fingers off. This book treads a neat middle ground between the two. "Fester"—who appears to have spent time in a chemistry program at a decent college—gives clear, concise directions for making explosives, and emphasizes safety throughout. When industrial strength chemicals and professional glassware are called for, he tells you; when improvised substitutes will work, they are outlined. He also pays attention to sources of supply, recommending avoiding some syntheses because their raw materials are also useful in drug manufacture and thus drawing undue scurtiny these days. With this book, any reasonably careful and intelligent person should be able to make nitroglycerin and some close relatives; the more adventurous and competent can master PETN and RDX and make some plastique charges as well. Of course, neither the author, the publisher, nor I would ever dream of suggesting that you actually do these things. Still, it's nice to know that we live in a country where the information is readily available, isn't it? (122 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

WAPSIPINICON ALMANAC 1989 (Rt. 3 Press, Anamosa, IA 52205): A charming alternative to the **OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC**, aimed at the inhabitants of Iowa but interesting to anyone who's into a simple, country life. In short bits, fiction, and new stories it sweeps through a year in the local area, with pieces like "Farming: Everybody's Business These Days" (worrying about the loss of traditional farming as the field becomes expertized) and "Coming, Going & Growing", about the reasons to plant local species when landscaping. There are short funny news stories, lots of detailed drawings, and even a fun "feel" to the paper, binding and slightly smaller than standard format. (S-160t)

★★★★★

Robert Willox, **MADAGASCAR AND COMOROS** ($10.95 from Lonely Planet, Embarcadero West, 112 Linden St., Oakland, CA 94607): One of the few complaints I have with **AFRICA ON A SHOESTRING** from the same publisher is that it gives you too much information and too little information, If you were just going to visit Madagascar and Comoros you would hardly need to know the visa requirements for Burkina Faso in the north of the continent. Have no fear, the folks at Lonely Planet are becoming more specialized and are now issuing more specific guides for a greater number of locations. Two places that are generally overlooked fro travel are the Comoros Islands and Madagascar, the fourth largest island in the world. This book may change that somewhat.

Author Robert Willox, journalist, Antarctic explorer, actor and philosopher, paints a fair and fascinating picture of these two exotic locations, showing the warts as well as the wonder. In true Lonely Planet style, the gobs of information are delivered in readable and often funny style.

The great thing about this book, like most Lonely Planet publications, is the obvious lack of pandering to the more conservative tourist. Here you get a reproduction of the best wine and beer labels along with hints on drinking the homemade brew as opposed to a comparison of the best five star hotels. Of course this book tells everything anybody would need to know about traveling in such an unusual location, including what to do if you get sick and how to untie the red tape.

The most notable difference between this and **AFRICA ON A SHOESTRING**, which includes chapters on both Madagascar and Comoros, is that somewhere, somehow, somebody bought a new computer. This thing is slick! About every thirty pages, just when you tire of looking at all that print, you're bombarded with beautiful color photographs that make you feel horrible about sitting in your dinky little apartment. Also for the detail freak traveler, there are more nifty maps than ever, though some are a little lacking in detail. Just remember not to take these maps as the word of God as they are not exactly perfect. Sometimes a big storm can wash out a road, for example, and you may have to go somewhere else or hike it.

Since there is very little information for travelers to these Indian Ocean islands, there isn't much choice when it comes to choosing travel books for Madagascar and Comoros. In fact, when I wrote to the Madagascar embassy and asked for tourist brochures, they sent me a messy two page photocopy of an old outdated brochure from some long forgotten travel agency. While this book isn't completely essential, it would be dumb to go there without it as it is very rich in detail and chock full of helpful hints on getting away to those incredible out of the way places most other travelers miss. Not only that, it suggests the few other books for travelers that are available. As an added bonus, the book has a really pleasant smell that becomes almost addictive. (182 pp. tpb)(Guest review by Todd Steed)

★★★★★

Robert Willox, **MAURITIUS, REUNION, AND SEYCHELLES** ($11.95 from Lonely Planet, Embarcadero West, 112 Linden St., Oakland, CA 94607): Many people refer to their various Lonely Planet publications as "bibles" and tote them around religiously while traveling through various parts of our planet. This comparison isn't fair. Lonely Planet books are generally much more accurate and useful. When traveling to destinations off the cost of East Africa, a copy of **MAURITIUS, REUNION, AND SEYCHELLES** becomes an object somewhere between helpful and necessary.

You may think you have reached heaven (or nirvana) when you show up at one of these three locations. Seychelles and Reunion are particularly close to the classic descriptions of paradise while Mauritius offers more in terms of culture but also is infinitely more beautiful than, say, Alabama. Unless you have plenty of excess cash you may want to just pick though these places because getting there from this country is very expensive and so are the islands except for the relatively inexpensive Mauritius.

This detailed "travel survival kit" gives out generally accurate information, even though prices increase by the time the book reaches the store shelves. Over 30 maps and a plethora of information on history, hotels, and hip places to hang will prepare the adventure hound in their quest for a section of the world generally free from other North Americans.

Where this book really shines is in the "extra" information often missing from other travel guides. Names of individuals to rent boats from, locations of hotels that don't look like hotels, local lingo, dancing tips for Mauritius, how not to look like a dumb gringo, and the best way to get drunk; it's all here.

One thin missing from this book, probably due to the fact that it's a first edition, is letters from readers. One of the great joys of **AFRICA ON A SHOESTRING** is reading all the great letters people have written about areas not covered in the earlier editions. Some are hilarious and most give you numerous other perspectives on the same subject.

There's also some trouble in paradise and the author points it out without discouraging potential travelers. For example, the wondrous Seychelles islands, along with some of the most tranquil scenery in the world is also the home for various members of the CIA, the KGB and MI5. If that wasn't enough, there's also Communist troops from North Korea, Tanzania, Russian advisers, US military personnel, mercenaries, private detectives, exiled rebels, diplomats and the Mafia! However, Willox contends all this makes Seychelles like an Ian Fleming novel.

It's all written in a lively style with occasional dry facts for those that dwell on that short of thing. It's also worth reading if you have already visited these places just for some thorough nostalgia. (275 pp. tpb)(Guest review by Todd Steed)

★★★★★

WRESTLING OBSERVER 1989 YEARBOOK ($12.50 from PO Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228): Once again **WRESTLIGN OBSERVER** editor Dave Meltzer has put together a yearbook that outdoes all of his previous efforts, with classy typesetting and a fine selection of features. The major article here, of course, is a look back at the 1980's, an important decade in pro wrestling. Dave picks out the major events, remembers and explains them, and provides an excellent picture of a sport grown to prominence. Then it's on to the usual yearbook features, including the top news stories for 1989 and the results of the annual readers' poll. There's a directory of wrestlers, notes on the Universal Wrestling Federation, a story on Terry Funk's comeback, and much more. Perfect binding would be nice, and a glossary would be quite valuable for those of us not immersed in the stuff, but those are minor flaws in a topnotch reference book. (L-110t)

★★★★★

Michael Ziesing, **THE SCARLET Q: ANARCHY, RELIGION, AND THE CULT OF SCIENCE** ($9 from Everyday Books, 713-717 Main St., Willimantic, CT 06226): A collection of Mike's writings on anarchy and the real world., Most of these have appeared in **INSTEAD OF A MAGAZINE** over the last few years, but it's nice to have them in one, somewhat more durable, place. He starts out with an analogy between religion and the cult of science, but certainly doesn't stop there. Next stop is Taoism, a subject on which he is well-informed, and his gentle examples give some feel for the anarchist core of this way of thought. Section 3 is on the troubles in Northern Ireland, section 4 on prisons, and section 5 considers some of the "real world" interface: clothes, privilege, food, and "The Middle Aged Anarchist", one of my favorite essays. A brief look at punk rock and some poetry conclude the volume.

Mike is a reasonable guy and a good friend of mine. His views on anarchy have influenced mine considerably. I think there's a lot to this book, and would urge anyone looking for a serious, well thought out, principled and non-arrogant anarchism to take a look at it. (145 pp. tpb)

BOOK NOTES

•**Books Are Everything** (R.C. & Elwanda Holland, 302 Martin Dr., Richmond, KY 40475) run frequent auctions of classic paperbacks, printing cover pictures in their catalogs, You can get on the auction catalog list for $5 and stay there as long as you keep bidding.

•**Bump in the Night Books** (133-135 Elfreths Alley, Philadelphia, PA 19106) sell various SF, fantasy and related items, with an emphasis on first editions, British editions, and other collectibles. A buck or two should land you the latest catalog.

•**A Change of Hobbit** is a SF bookstore in California that will be happy to take your want list, file it, and keep an eye out for particular titles. For information on this and their other mail-order services, send an SASE to 1433 Second St., Santa Monica, CA 90401.

•**Dark Carnival** (2978 Adeline St., Berkeley, CA 94703) is "the World's Largest Store for New Imaginative Fiction". If you're in the area write for a copy of **THE BARKER**, their newsletter and announcement of upcoming events.

•**DC Books** (30 Clifford Dr., West Hartford, CT 06107) buys and sells SF paperbacks. Send a buck for the current catalog.

•**Delectus Books** (27 Old Gloucester Street, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND) has released a new catalog of books on the topics of "Occult* Surrealism* Gothic* 1890's". £1 & A5 SAE in the country, probably about $3 to the States.

•**Dreamhaven Books** (1300 4th St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414) sells SF and related signed editions, first editions, and other collectors' items. Write for a copy of their current catalog.

•**Chris Drumm** sells books—new and used SF and fantasy and the like, as well as his own stock of spiffy booklets. Send a buck for his latest catalog to PO Box 445, Polk City, IA 50226.

•**Fry's Incredible Inquiry** (HC76 Box 2207, Garden Valley, ID 83622) is a great source for books on free energy and anti-gravity devices, cars that need no fuel, training yourself to be superman, and other far-out subjects. $1 gets you their tabloid catalog.

•**Jack in a Box** is the somewhat morbid title of a book list from David Park (841 Cleveland Ave.., Albany, CA 94706). It's all stuff about the Kennedy assassination, with all manner of outlandish theories in this listing of 98 items for sale. $2 gets you the 20-page annotated list.

•**Gerry Kleier** (2134 McGee #B, Berkeley, CA 94703) sells used books, mainly rarities, first editions, and other collectors' items.

•**Loompanics Unlimited** (PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368) is out with their 1990 Spring Supplement, with books on topics like changing your identity, human behavior, weird news, espionage and trapping. You can probably get a copy for a buck, or send $3 for their 1990 main catalog.

•**Dave McClintock** (PO Box 1949, Warren, OH 44482-1949) sells rare and unusual books int eh SF, fantasy and other fantastic veins. He gets in quite a number of unusual items, and his lists are fun to read. You can get the latest for 25¢.

•**Mystery Sales List** (Jeffrey Meyerson, 8801 Shore Rd. #6A-East, Brooklyn, NY 11209) comes out like clockwork, listing hundreds of used mystery and related books for sale by mail.

•**Nolo Press** (950 Parker St., Berkeley, CA 94710) sells self-help legal books. $12 will put you on their mailing list for two years.

•**The Overlook Connection** (PO Box 526, Woodstock, GA 30188) is a fat but rather ugly tabloid book catalog. It specializes in horror and SF, concentrating on editions that are special in one way or another, and includes industry gossip, photos, and even some short fiction as well as books for sale. You can get it for a year just by asking.

•**David Park** (841 Cleveland Ave., Albany, CA 94706) sells various books from the far reaches of the world. List #6 covers CBW, the murder of Martin Luther King, and other strange happenings. List #7 is on thought control.

•**John Strausbaugh's GOING OUT** is being serialized by Dolphin-Moon Press in a subscription-only arrangement. For information on getting this unusual, modern-day-fantasy novel write them as PO Box 22262, Baltimore, MD 21203.

•**Threshold Books** (RD 4, Box 600, Putney, VT 05346) is into publishing books of "Literary Excellence and Spiritual Significance". They run from Sufi teachings to fiction by prison activist and teacher Bo Lozoff. A buck should land their 1990 catalog.

•**Verlag Golem** (PO Box 3414, Providence, RI 02906) has a new catalog of obscure and wonderful books out, from Thom Metzger's wacko paperback BIG GURL to new translations from the Bible and Catullus. $1 should get you the catalog and change or some goodie.

•**Water Row Books** (PO Box 438, Sudbury, MA 01776) specializes in items related to the Beatniks and their successors. For their latest catalog of new and used material send about $2.

•**Samuel Weiser Inc.** (PO Box 612, York Beach, ME 03910)has their spring catalog out, replete with esoteric literature stretching back to the dream time and forward to the Silva Mind Control Method. A buck should get you a copy.

•**Yes! Books & Videos** (PO Box 10726, Arlington, VA 22210)is a source for all sorts of material designed to uplift and improve your life, with a mainly New Age-ish slant. A buck for a catalog, probably.

•**Mark Ziesing** (PO Box 76, Shingletown, CA 96088) keeps putting out these cool catalogs of cool books, plus he publishes nifty things like the Ray Garton book above *and* provides me with my Krazy Kat fix, so I think you really should send him a buck or two for his latest list of happening literature. Trust me. How many other booksellers will pass on tips on cleaning your bathroom porcelain more easily?

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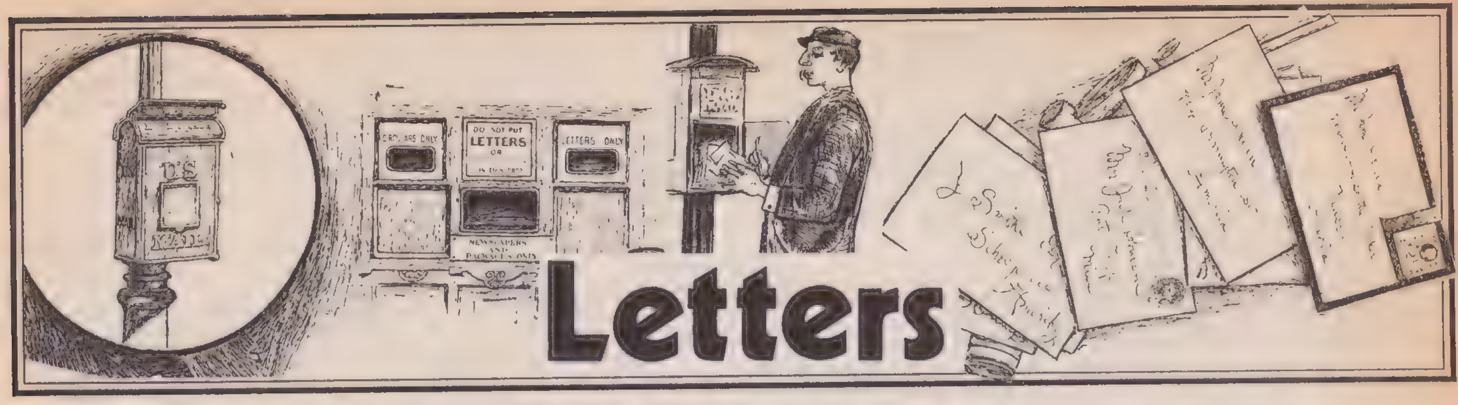

Letters

I'd be please if you could mention in your columns that the **NEW HOPE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW SUPPLEMENT** is covering more and more audio-material esp. traditional and experimental poetry/drama also the unusual and the humorous. We do not care for heavy rock but most other kinds of music are of interest. We still of course review predominantly literary magazines and books.

Gerald England
20 Werneth Avenue
Gee Cross
Hyde
Cheshire
SK14 5NL
UK

★★★★★

I receive a lot of zines in the mail for review in **SPUN** or for trade and a good majority don't seem to take into consideration the appearance or style in which their ideas, opinions, reviews, etc. are expressed in. When reviewing zines, I immediately look to see if the zine looks like it wants to be read. The more care that's put into the design quality and in making the reader's job easier, reflects how good a zine is, to me anyway. I'm not saying that creators have to tone down their ideas for a sheep-like public or anything like that. The clearer the design is in giving the reader visual aids as to where to start reading or who the person is asking/answering a question in an interview is (and so on), the more likely the ideas, intended to get across to the reader, will.

Being a graphic design student, I try to emphasize this "design quality" in my own work. I see a lot of the zines coming out today as being very exciting and informative and fun but difficult to follow without straining one's eyes too much, I'd hope that more zine-makers would give some consideration to those who are reading their zines.

Doug Chapel

★★★★★

I have been "ripped off" by a number of people you mention and plug....Either these people you plug are either con men/ripoffs or just terrible businesspeople. You MUST do something to protect your many readers from these people. I'd like to see you address this issue next time out. It's a bad reflection on you to plug these people who do not deliver.

Dan Reilly

/* I left the names out of Dan's letter because the specific instances he cites are people who are not, I suspect, still in the publishing business. In general, that's where most of the problems lie: with people who, for one reason or another, leave the zine world without bothering to pay off on the their debts.

But there are other cases which are more suspicious. In general, my practice when confronted with a complaint from a reader is to write to the zine in question, requesting assistance. 90% of the time, this works. But the other 10%...well, there are crooks out there, or at the very least incompetent businesspeople who don't even bother to answer their mail.

So, much as I don't want to spend the time to be the Better Business Bureau for the small press, I'm finally going to take another step. When I get complaints, I'll still write to ask people to fix them. But now, if I don't hear back from them in a reasonable amount of time, I'll start listing their names in the News section. This probably won't get anyone's money back, but it should at least help keep other people from being ripped off.

For starters, there's one chronic case which a lot of people lost money on over the last year: Bill-Dale Marcinko's **CROW** magazine, which put out one issue, got many good reviews (here and elsewhere) and then apparently never sent any more copies out. I have received numerous complaints about this zine and haven't been able to do anything about it. */

★★★★★

John Brunner has asked me to write and thank you for your letter to him dated 27 March 1990. He is extremely flattered that you thought his title was catchy enough for your fanzine and is quite happy that you continue to use it.

All the best with your adventure.

Liz Jameson
Secretary to John Brunner

/* For those who are perplexed by the above, I'll mention once again that I swiped the title **FACTSHEET FIVE** from a John Brunner short story when I started this zine, eight years ago. It just took me a while to write for permission, that's all. */

★★★★★

I do not mind negative reviews of **NOT BORED!** In fact, I *prefer* them to positive reviews. But what I *do* mind about the negative review of **NOT BORED!** #16 in **FACTSHEET FIVE** #35 is that it reveals that Mike Gunderloy *still* hasn't read the situationists: **NOT BORED!**, which draws "largely on Situationism" is "too deep for me, or at least depending too heavily on things I have not read." Such a sentence, without any modification, could have appeared in one of the **FACTSHEET FIVE** reviews of **NOT BORED!** in 1987, or in 1984. Why is it—this is *not* a rhetorical question—that Gunderloy, an "anarchist," *still* hasn't read the situationists? Doesn't even Greil Marcus' **LIPSTICK TRACES** make Gunderloy want to read *just a few pages* of situationist writing? Apparently not. But if he did, Gunderloy would probably realize what a stupid, meaningless term "Situationism" is, and might even stop using it.

Bill Brown

/* Actually, I *have* read somewhat more than "a few pages" of situationist writing. Unlike the few people these days who feel compelled to continue fighting the intellectual battles which the situationists participated in and provoked, I feel no need to commit the entire canon of situationist work to memory—or to forswear the use of "Situationism" to describe a particular mode of analysis even if its initiators insisted the term was meaningless. What I haven't read—and have little desire and no time to read—is **LIPSTICK TRACES**. I somehow don't find it necessary for my life (or my anarchist activity, for that matter) to keep up on the latest advances on the academic battleground of pretentious twentieth-century intellectualism. */

★★★★★

To any artistic, anarchist magickians,

If you live in, or near the area of Portland Maine, I'd like to correspond with you. I have been working for the past year to build a study-group (or more accurately, a tribe) for the exploration and expression of arcane knowledge. I've had some success, but not enough.

My magickal agenda includes: Gnosis, Cybermancy, Tantra, Thelema, Voodoo and many other esoterik traditions. I'd like to merge this into an experimental musik/art and antipolitical tribe. The process would include study, networking, ritual and performance. If you are interested, let me know.

NOX AUM PAX
Navitae
PO Box 15086
Portland, ME 04101

★★★★★

In answer to a question raised in your letters section, we at Alternative Graphics can do custom screen work via mail. Our current prices are: 1 color on white shirts, $4 per shirt. Minimum order is 72 shirts—orders under 72 shirts add $25 screen charge. Extra colors are 75¢ per shirt, postage is extra. We will do multi color bleeds at no extra charge.

Joe Wetmore
Alternative Graphics
PO Box 124, Sta. F
Buffalo, NY 14212

★★★★★

I don't totally share your high opinion of shareware. Too much of it is worthless garbage, and don't tell me So what, it's free—that's not the point. On the other side, I understand that very few people actually pay for anything that they like and use. So there is a lot of deception going on, in both directions.

I'd much rather support small software companies instead, where you pay for what you get, deal with the people who wrote it, and have the opportunity to complain. It takes a lot of work to write a decent program that does what it says it will do and doesn't crash the system or wipe out your hard disk or anything. I think anyone who does that deserves to be paid. Plus there is so much money floating around in the software market; I think it would be nice if some of that money went directly to the people that actually did the work, from people that actually use the product.

I completely agree with you that we should deal with real human beings and chip away at the Computer Monolith. But I don';t think shareware is the only way to go. I want to encourage all good program writers—not just generous ones—to get out there and deal with real computer users.

Pat Blank

/* I didn't mean that shareware was the only way to go for software, and I agree that much shareware is junk. However, in my experience the small friendly supportive companies often market their product as shareware. In practice, I look for a level of appropriate size when I buy software. I buy a product that does what I need from the smallest, friendliest company possible. So for desktop publishing I use Xerox Ventura Publisher; for word processing I'm overjoyed with Borland's Sprint; for my fonts I use Digi-Fonts, a friendly company in a sea of megacorporations; and for a DOS shell I use 4DOS, which is shareware. Too many people, though, seem to assume that the only decent software comes from big corporations, and that's the image I'd like to fight. */

★★★★★

Like Bill Bohrer, I also sometimes get requests for sample copies without return addresses. Requestors should always remember to include their name and address on the request letter. Just having it on the envelope is not good enough. By the time I get around to mailing,t he envelope is usually long gone and if I didn't notice that the return address isn't on the envelope when I first opened it, there's no way I can figure out where to send the copy. Publishers like myself, who do everything from typing copy to pasteup to mailings and work an outside job besides, have a hard time keeping it all together so requestors need to keep that in mind.

Mary Siler Anderson

★★★★★

I'm looking for strange, nonsensical and or mystical (short) poems, quotes, songs. Also unusual names of people, places, things. Thank you.

Thornton Kimes
c/o 403 14th Ave. E #15
Seattle, WA 98102

★★★★★

MU CONTIENTEL NEWS are looking for contributors of any kind. Send your wishes to this magazine. Cassettes, records, Mail-art, short stories articles you name it.

MU CONTINENTEL NEWS
c/o Jonas Kellagher
Uranstigen 22
582 58 Liköping
SWEDEN

★★★★★

I do like Kevin Kelly's idea of putting a box in front of zines not previously reviewed, but I hope he and others are careful not to just look at the new zines and bypass ones that have been around longer.

Mark Rose

★★★★★

Can you ask your other readers if they know how I can get a cassette by INC (Indestructible Noise Command) called "The Visitor"? I believe it's out of print, but I want it pretty badly.

KD Gagnon
5 Tracy St.
Montpelier VT 05602

★★★★★

I'm still in search of small literary sines (or any kind of zine for that matter) who would be interested in publishing my column "Random Senseless Violence" either as a regular column or just as sporadic submissions. If you could steer me towards any underground journals specifically geared toward psychological horror or nastiness in general I'd be grateful.

Jef Deth
473 Alexander St. #2
Rochester, NY 14605

★★★★★

Our organisation "Sight and Sound Music Co-Operative" may be of interest. We have our own four track studio, computer sequencing, F/X, amps, guitars etc., and we're totally volunteer run and funded by grants, fundraising, donations and so on. We work at a grassroots level and offer subsidised studio recording (we have access to a number of 16 track studios for a third of the normal price), we set up gigs, offer rehearsal space, advice, etc. We have about 12 member bands and other individuals, and of course run a regular newsletter. We'd like to set in motion a trans-Atlantic music exchange if anybody is interested, offering crash space to visiting bands, exchange gigs, help, advice, contacts, etc. Anybody worldwide is welcome. We'd be interested to hear from fanzines, bands, college DJs etc. etc. if they need a plug in our zine too.

Adrian Fusiarski
1 South View
Main Street
Mexborough
South Yorkshire, S64 9NE
UK

★★★★★

In response to D.S. Black's review of my service in FF34, I feel it only fitting that I put things in proper perspective. I spend an inordinate amount of time in bookstores and in some cases I or some of my book scouts have taken years to locate many of the books in my library and even with the complete BOOKS IN PRINT this is often an agonizing endeavor. So for Mr. Black to claim that much of my material is available at a good research library is egregriously inaccurate. One would be hard pressed to locate titles on spontaneous human combustion or auto erotic fatalities in your local library's card catalog, which is probably why I have received requests for material from as far away as Israel, Poland, Sweden and Australia. On the other hand it is plausible that the material you requested such as Evil Poetry is easily locatable. As to citations, neither you nor 98% of my orders ever request any but I am more than happy to cite if asked. Despite the fact that the vast majority of my orders are disappointingly vague, I have only received two complaints (one from misdirected mail) since D.G.E.'s genesis 12 months ago which is something I take pride in, so I must be doing something right. Those with computers will be happy to learn that they will soon be able to access me via modem. With 40 megabytes of death and gore I'll give Loompanics and Amok some stiff competition.

Scary Gary
Diabolos Graphics Exchange

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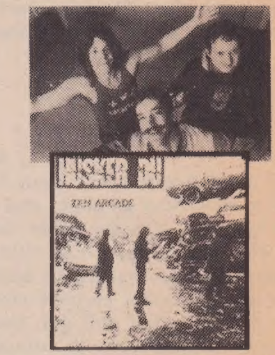
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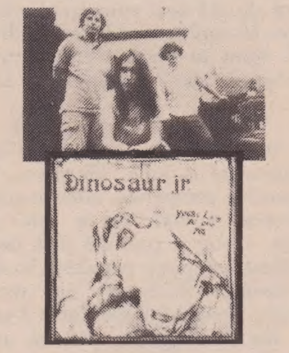
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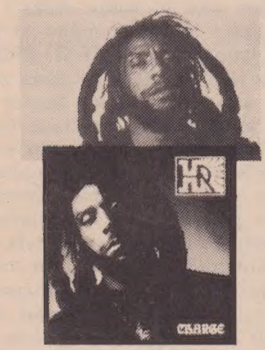

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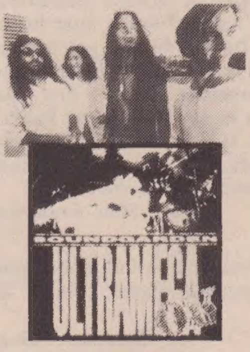
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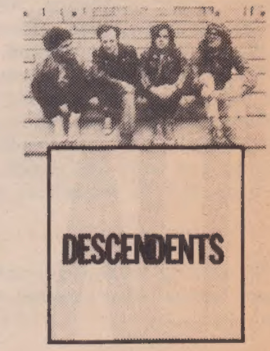
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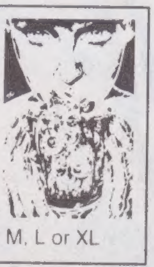

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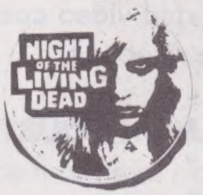
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